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DECEMBER

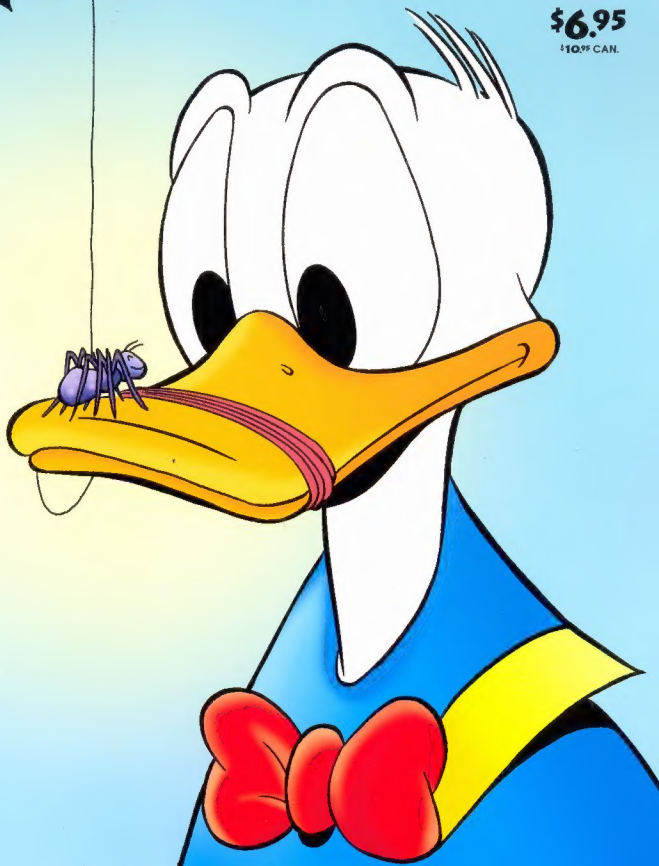
No. 639

WALT DISNEY'S

COMICS

\$6.95

\$10.95 CAN.



November is here and Thanksgiving is almost upon us (those of us in the U.S., that is). With that in mind, I began reflecting on what we have to be thankful about with regard to comic books!

Well, primarily, production values, printing methods, and paper quality have never been better. I look back on the books I bought as a kid and have to remark on their poor quality. They were printed on old worn-out letter presses, color separation was done by hand with a limited color range of flat colors, and the paper was newsprint that deteriorated after just a few years. Today, we separate thousands of colors digitally, print on high-speed offset presses and use paper whose quality is such that the comics can last a lifetime. For comparatively more than comics used to cost, admittedly. But I think it's worth it!

— John Clark

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Donald Duck **Story, Art & Lettering:**
GOING WILD William Van Horn
Color: Scott Rockwell

Big Bad Wolf **Story & Lettering:**
THE BADDEST DAY David Gerstein
Art: Massimo Fecchi
Color: Marie Javins

Mickey Mouse **Story:** Sarah Kinney
THE PLAY'S **Art:** Miguel
THE THING **Color:** Terry Letterman
Lettering: Willie Schubert

Gyro Gearloose **Story & Art:** Carl Barks
A HELPER'S **(US 46, December 1963)**
HELPING HAND **Color:** Pocho Bemko-Morrow

Grandma Duck **Story:** Gail Renard & Jack Sutter
LORD OF THE **Art:** Marsal
DANCE **Color:** Barry (Englin) Grossman
Lettering: John Clark

Huey, Dewey and Louie **Story:** Paul Halas
TROUBLED TRACKERS **Art:** Millet
Color: Terry Letterman
Lettering: Willie Schubert

Donald Duck **Story:** Per Hedman
OVERSLEPT **Art:** Alfarez
Color: Susan Daigle-Leach
Lettering: John Clark

Donald Duck **Story:** Janet Gilbert
THE BAD OLD DAYS **Art:** Esteban
Color: Marie Javins
Lettering: Jon Babcock

Front cover art by William Van Horn, color by Susan Daigle-Leach

NEXT ISSUE SHIPS WEEK OF DECEMBER 17TH
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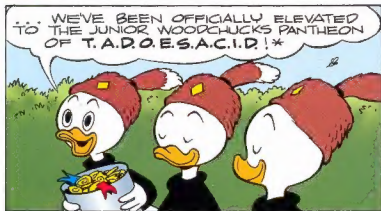
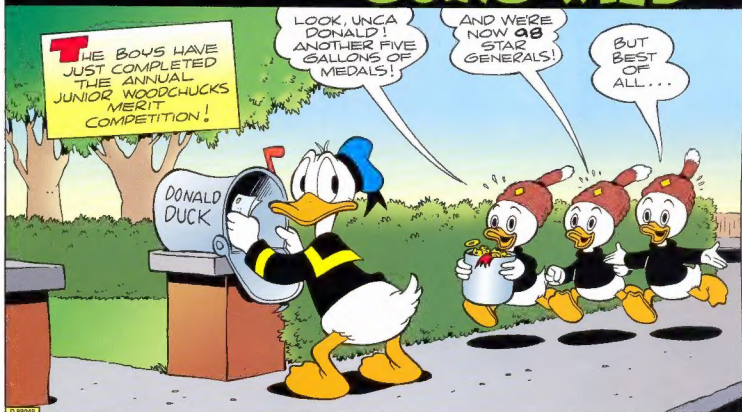
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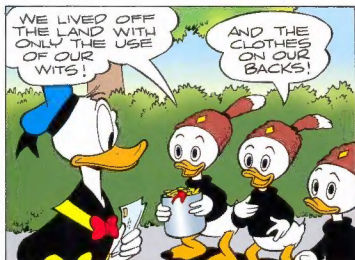
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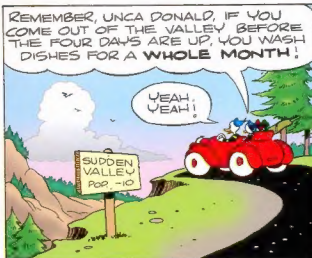
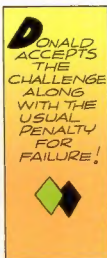
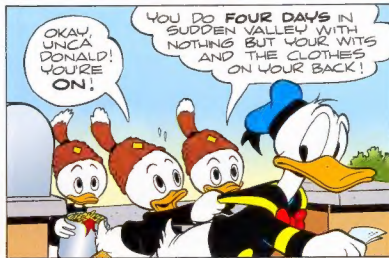
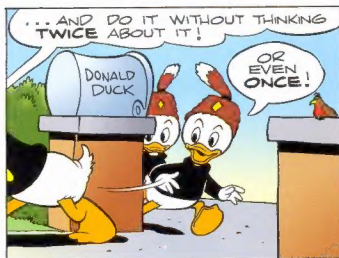
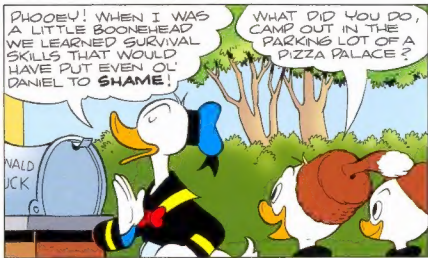
DONALD DUCK

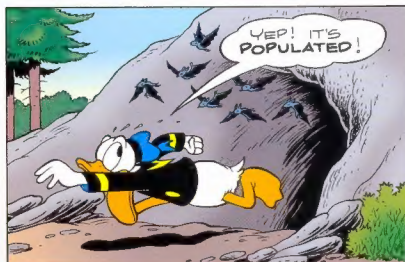
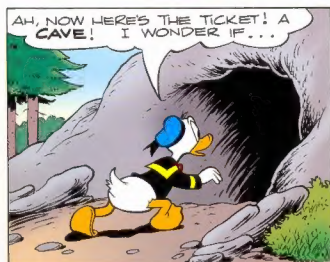
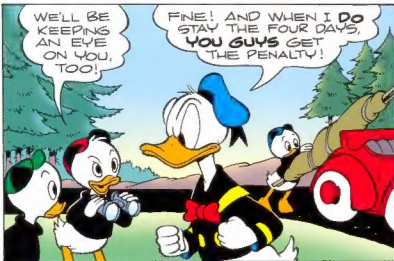
- GOING WILD -

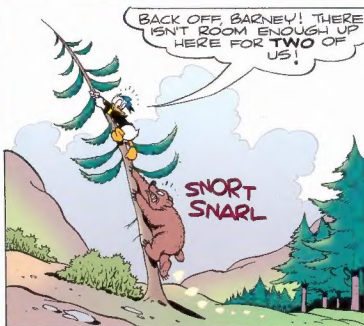
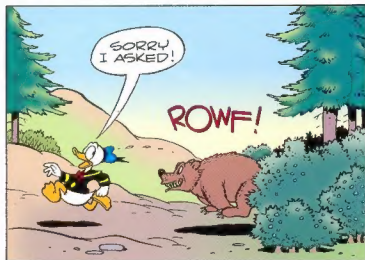
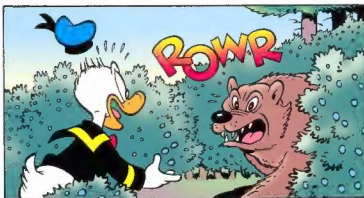
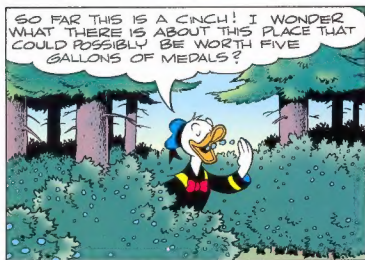
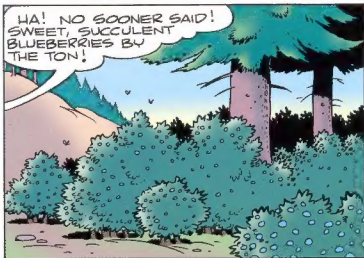
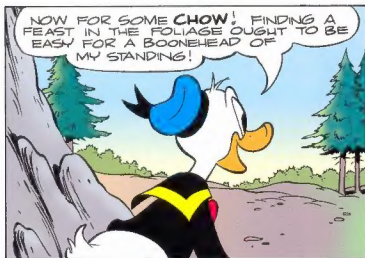


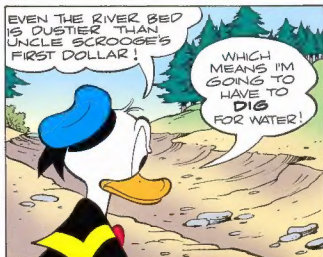
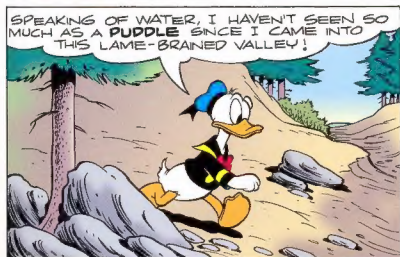
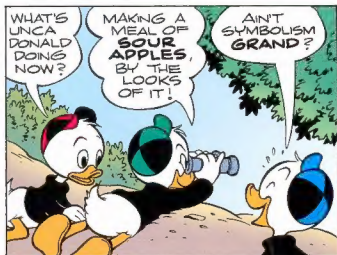
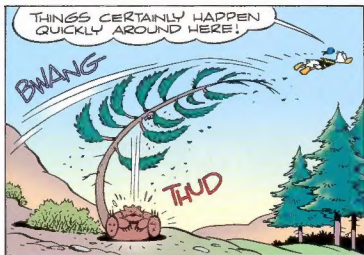
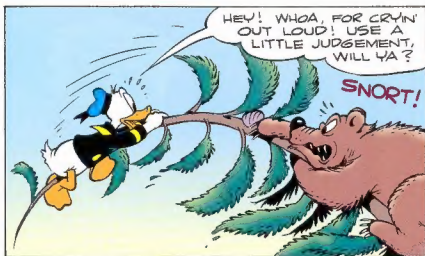
* THOROUGHLY ANNOINED DOYENS OF EXORBITANT SKILL AND COSMICALLY IMPLAUSIBLE DARING!





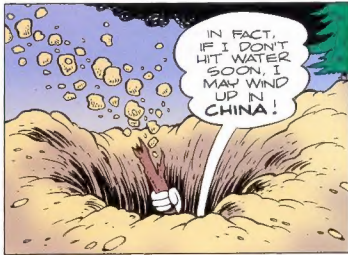






A
ND
SO-

ME AND MY BIG MOUTH! THE NEXT TIME THE KIDS COME HOME WITH GALLONS OF MEDALS, I'M GOING TO BE OUT OF TOWN!



IN FACT, IF I DON'T HIT WATER SOON, I MAY WIND UP IN CHINA!

PUFF! PANT! THERE MUST BE AN EASIER WAY TO -

BOOM



WHOOSH

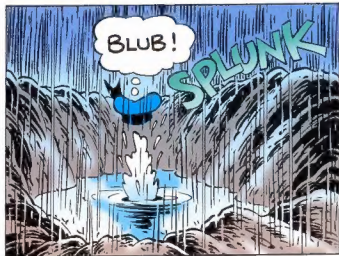


YOICKS! IF I'M NOT PARCHED, I'M DROWNING! LEMME OUTTA HERE!



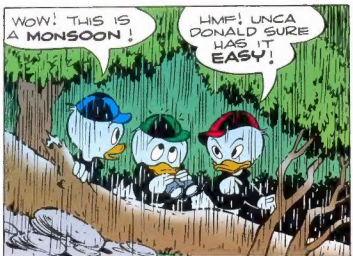
BLUB!

SPLUNK

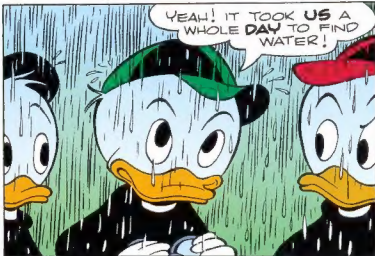


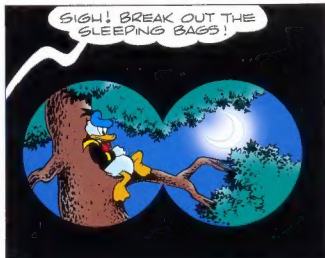
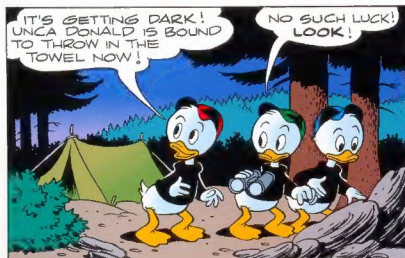
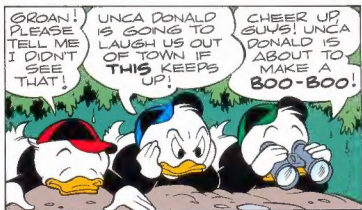
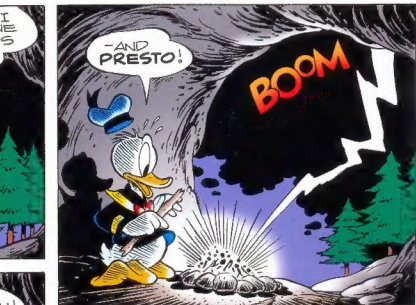
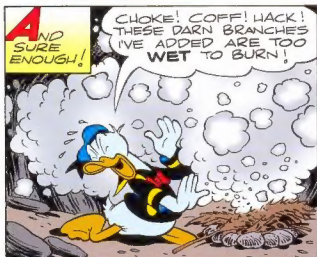
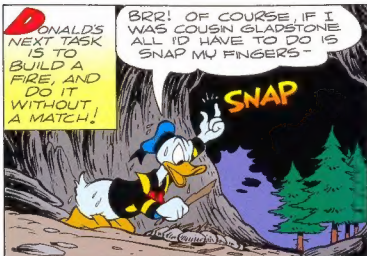
WOW! THIS IS A MONSOON!

HMF! UNCA DONALD SURE HAS IT EASY!

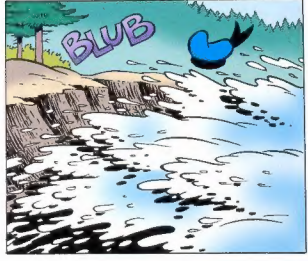
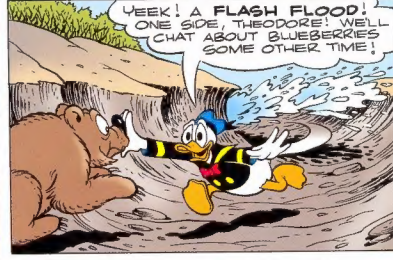
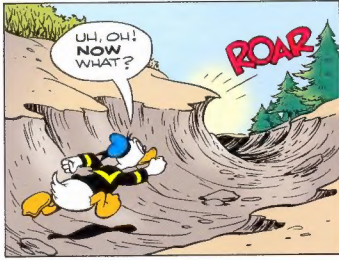
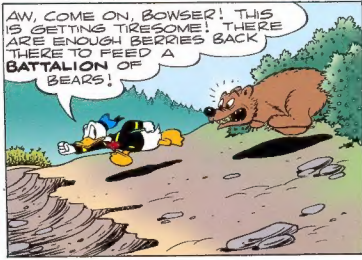
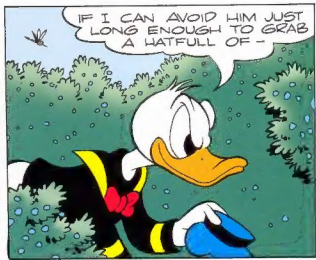
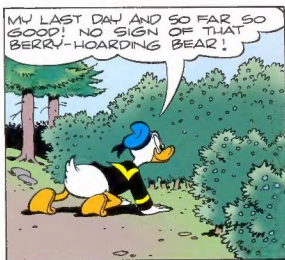


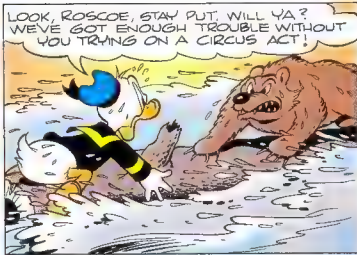
YEAH! IT TOOK US A WHOLE DAY TO FIND WATER!



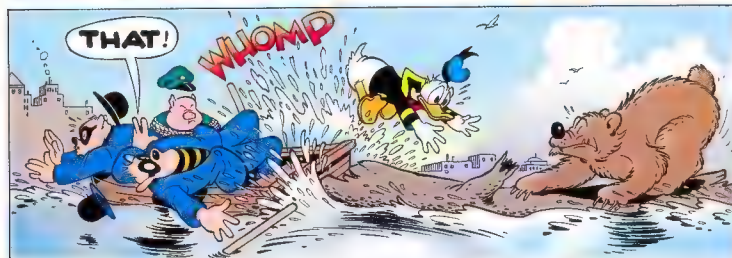
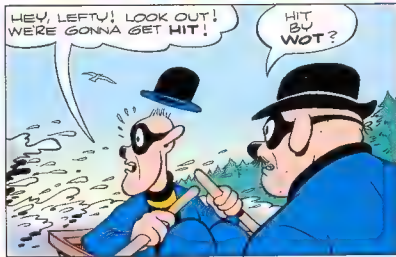
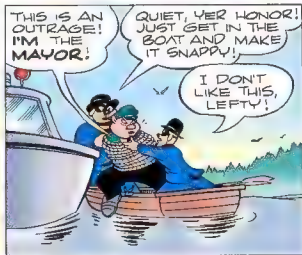


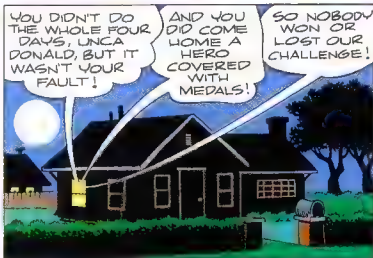
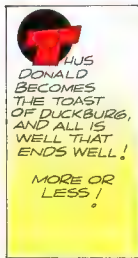
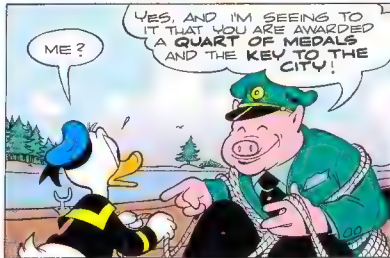
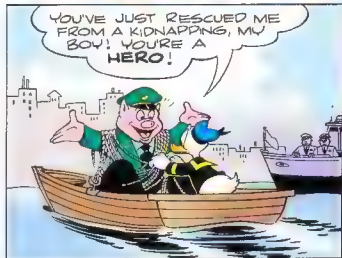
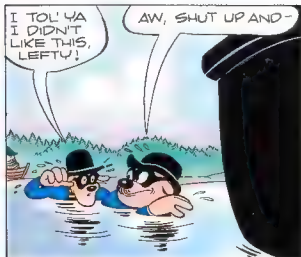
THREE DAYS PASS AND DONALD MANAGES TO SURVIVE!





THE FLOOD WATERS FEED INTO THE DUCKBURG RIVER, JUST A MILE UPSTREAM FROM THE SCENE OF SOME NEFARIOUS DOINGS!



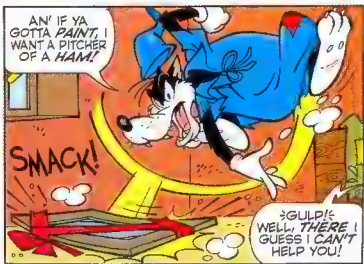
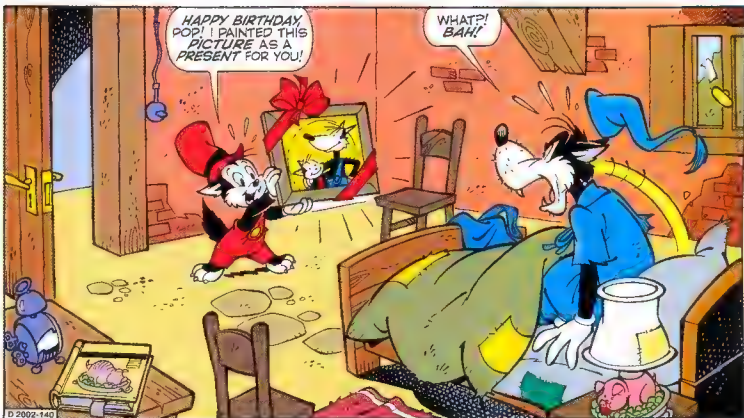


WALT DISNEY'S

THE BIG BAD WOLF

in

THE BADDEST DAY



IF YA WANNA START A HAPPY TRADITION, YA'LL CATCH ME THEM BIRTHDAY PIGS BY SUNDOWN...

Y-YES, POP!

...AN' MAKE US BOTH SUCCESSFUL WOLVES!

YES, POP! I'LL TRY, POP!

AND SO HE DOES...

YOUR POP INSISTS YOU CATCH US! HOW REFRESHINGLY NEW!

SIGH! I COULD NEVER DO IT, PRACTICAL! BUT I DO WISH I COULD HELP POP FEEL LIKE A SUCCESSFUL WOLF!

THE PIGS

WHAT IF A BIG CROWD THREW HIM A PARTY? SERVED HIS FAVORITE FOODS... EXCEPT FOR PORK...

AND TOLD HIM HE WAS A POPULAR GUY!

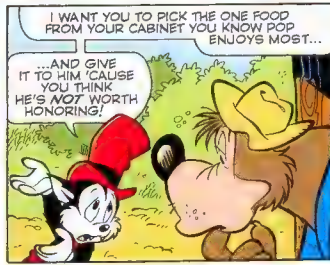
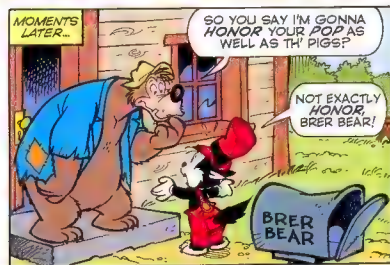
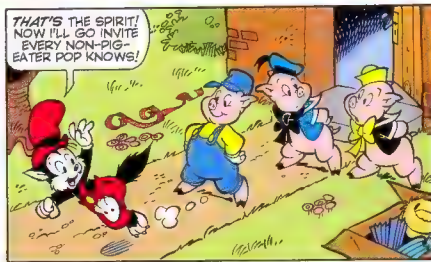
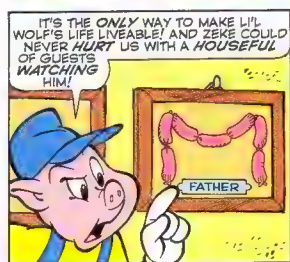
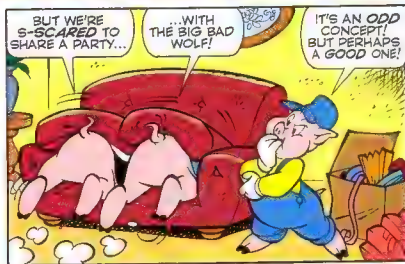
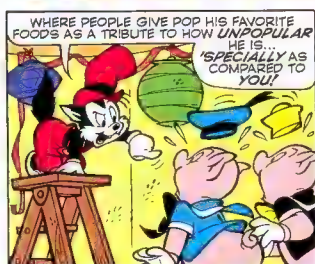
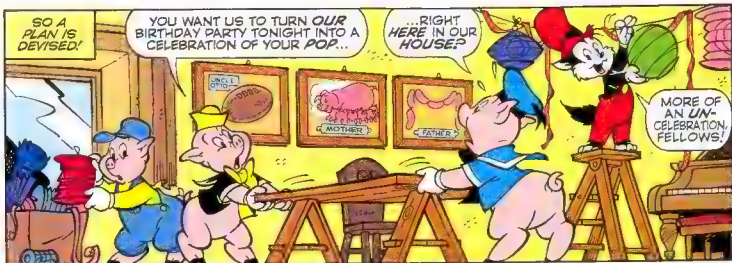
GET REAL, BROTHERS! THE WOLF IS SUPER UN-POPULAR! EVEN HIS FRIENDS HALF-HATE HIM--

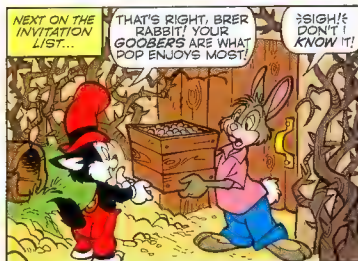
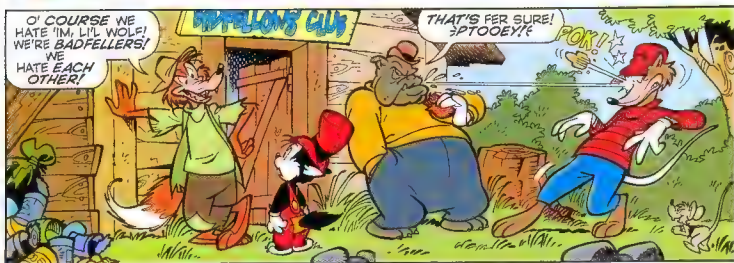
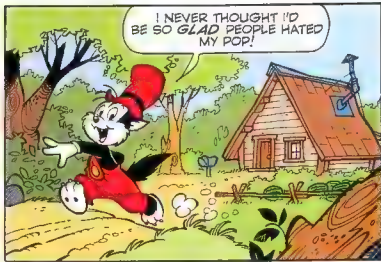
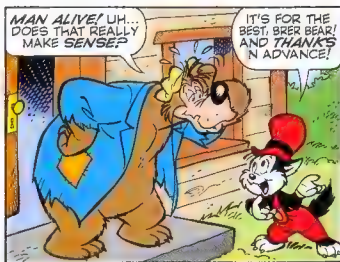
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!

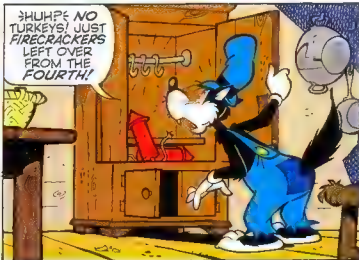
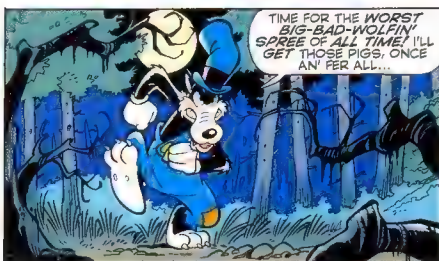
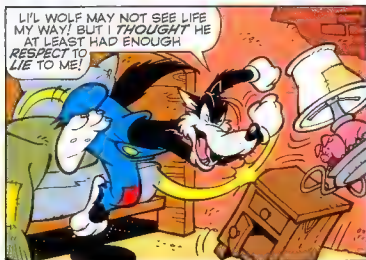
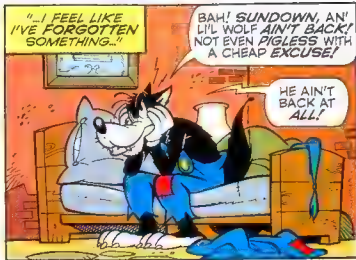
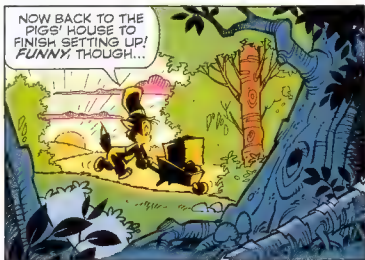
THAT'S IT! SURE POP'S UNPOPULAR... BUT THAT'S GOOD! FOR HIM, A SUCCESSFUL WOLF WANTS TO BE DISLIKED!

AND POP MAY BE MORE DISLIKED THAN HE KNOWS!

IF I CAN PROVE IT, I'LL GIVE HIM HIS BIRTHDAY EGO-BOOST WITHOUT HAVING TO CATCH ANYBODY!







AN' NOT A SIGN
OF BRER BEAR! OR
HIS NEIGHBORS!

OR THE
FOOD?

GGRR! WELL,
AT LEAST I'LL
HAVE MY WAY
WITH THOSE PI--

GREAT SUFFERIN'
CATFISH! SO THAT'S
WHERE EVERYONE IS!

ALMOST TH' WHOLE FOREST
SETTLEMENT! RINGIN' IN TH' PIGS'
BIRTHDAY WITH TH' FOODS
HOPE TO STEAL!

EVEN...
MY SON...

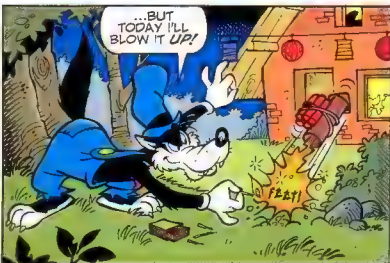
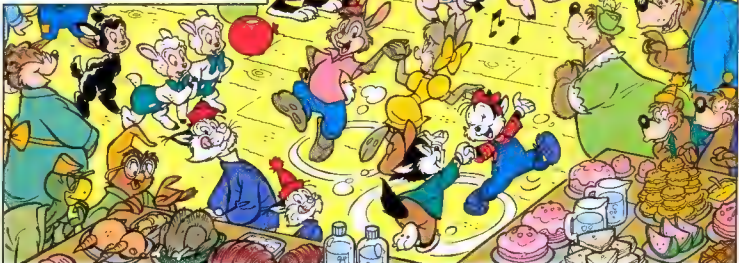
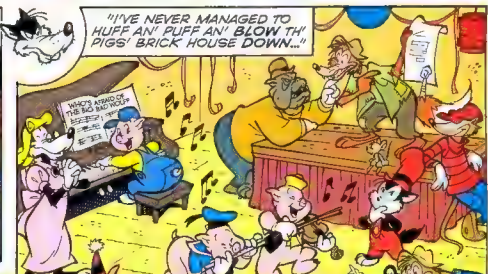
"SO IN TRIBUTE TO BRER
WOLF'S BADNESS, I'M GVIN'
THREE TURKEYS AN' A KICK
IN TH' PANTS!"

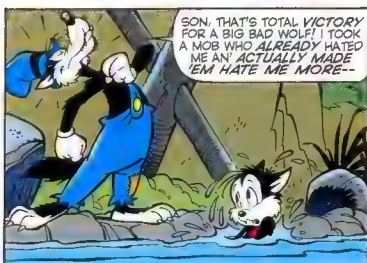
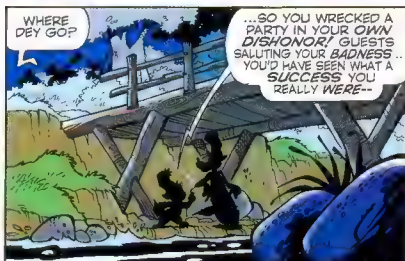
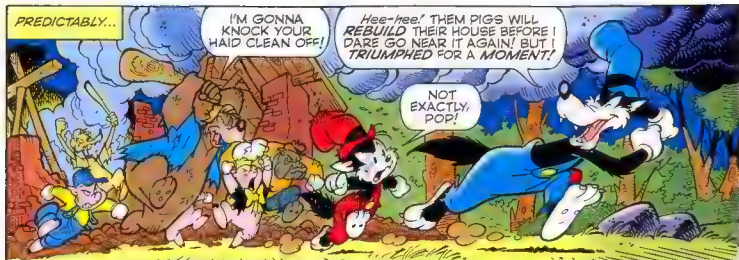
GREAT SPEECH,
BRER FOX!
POP'S SURE TO
LOVE IT!

WHERE'D YOU
GIT THOSE
TURKEYS, FOX?

SO WHEN'S
YOUR POP
ARRIVING, LI'L
WOLF?

IT'S FUNNY, PRACTICAL! I WENT HOME
TO LOOK FOR
POP, BUT HE'S
NOT THERE!





MORE Disney excitement TO COME!

These books are just the first in a series of prestige and regular-format comics that will feature exciting stories and adventures of the Standard Disney Characters that you know and love, including Donald Duck, Uncle Scrooge, Mickey Mouse, Huey, Dewey, and Louie, Gyro Gearloose, and many more.

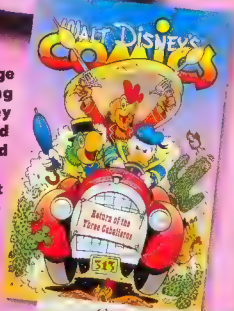
Now on sale and on a monthly schedule, Walt Disney's Comics and Stories and Walt Disney's Uncle Scrooge, each in 64-page Prestige format for \$6.95.

Available July 22, 2003. The first book in Gemstone's new series - Walt Disney's Donald Duck Adventures, a travel-sized pocket book featuring 128 pages of long adventure stories in 5" X 7 1/2" squarebound format for \$7.95. These books will be

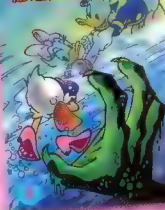
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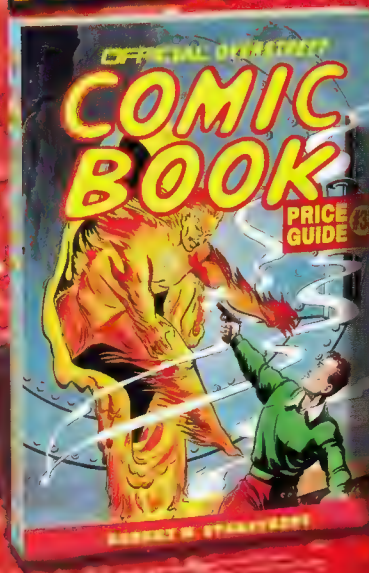
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IN THE
PLAY'S THE
THING

AS YOU'VE BEEN NAG—ER, ENCOURAGING ME TO GET INTERESTED IN THE ARTS, I THOUGHT I'D START WITH ONE OF THE OLDEST—*DRAMA!*

DOES IT HAVE TO BE IN THE OLDEST THEATER?

© 2001 15*

THE RENT IS SUSPICIOUSLY CHEAP! IS THE PLACE SAFE?

IT'S CHEAP BECAUSE IT'S OLD AND SUPPOSEDLY HAUNTED—THE PERFECT PLACE FOR A BLOOD-CURDLING HORROR PLAY!

IT'S CALLED "THE CHILL PILL!" A THRILLER ABOUT A MAD SCIENTIST AND HIS MONSTER WREAKING HAVOC...

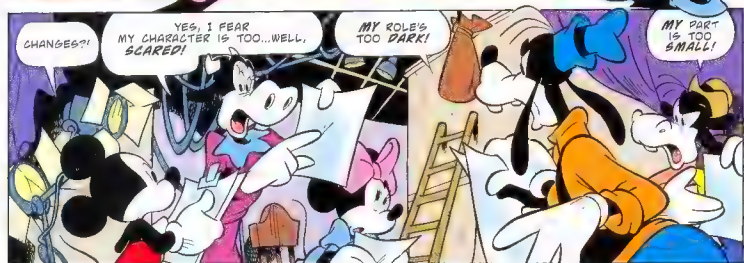
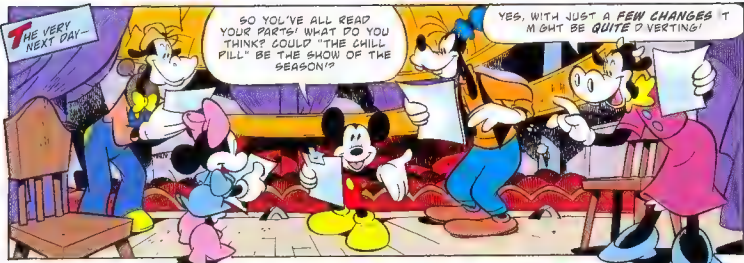
CREAK!

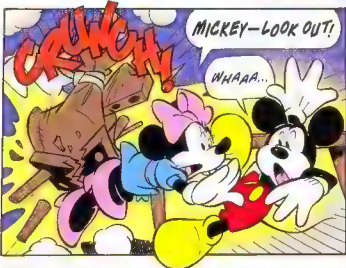
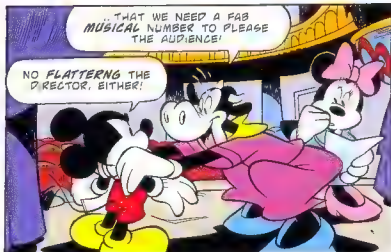
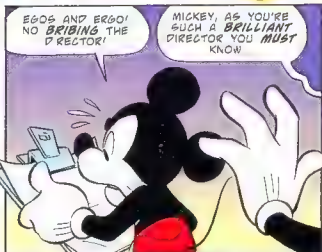
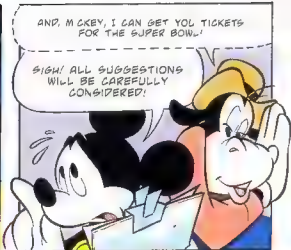
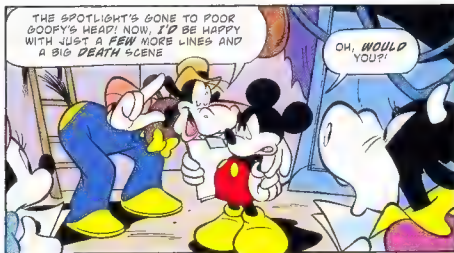
PICTURE T! THE AUDIENCE HOLDS THEIR BREATHS. THE CURTAIN OPENS ON A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT—

IF THE CURTAIN WORKS!

ALL THIS PLACE NEEDS IS A LITTLE HARD WORK AND TEAM SPIRIT!

IT'S THE SPIRIT THAT WORRIES ME. BUT IT DOES SOUND LIKE FUN!

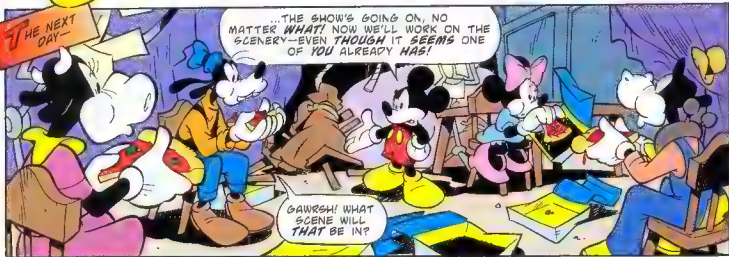
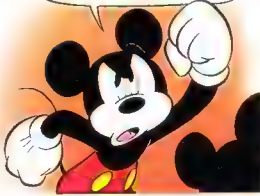
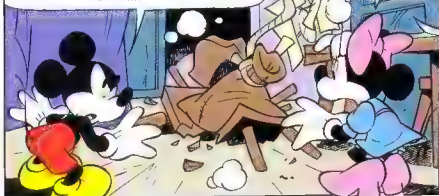




MAYBE SOMEONE'S TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING! WOULD ONE OF THE GANG RATHER WANT TO **HURT ME...** THAN DO IT **MY WAY?**

NO! IT MUST HAVE BEEN AN **ACCIDENT!**

I WON'T LET ANY OF MY PALS **BULLY** ME INTO **GIVING UP!** NOT EVER! SO THERE!



...THE SHOW'S GOING ON, NO MATTER **WHAT!** NOW WE'LL WORK ON THE SCENERY—EVEN THOUGH IT **SEEMS** ONE OF YOU **ALREADY HAS!**

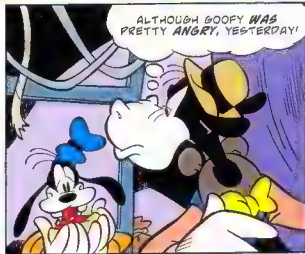
GAWKSH! WHAT SCENE WILL **THAT** BE IN?

I NEVER THOUGHT ANY OF YOU HATED YOUR PARTS ENOUGH TO DO **THIS!**

YOU THINK ONE OF **US** DID THAT?! **IMPOSSIBLE!**

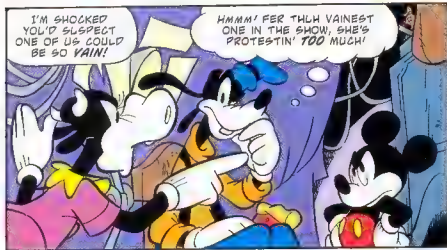


ALTHOUGH GOOFY **WAS** PRETTY **ANGRY**, YESTERDAY!

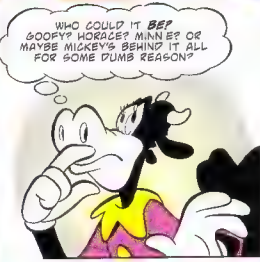


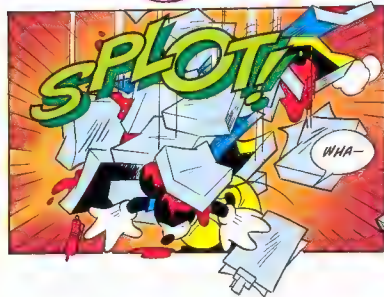
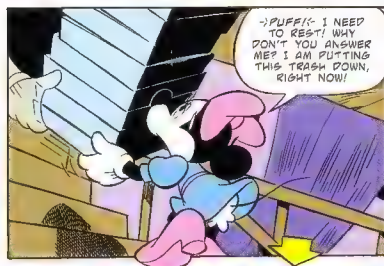
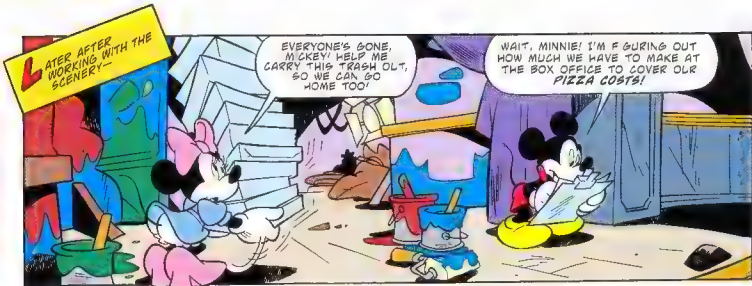
I'M SHOCKED YOU'D SUSPECT ONE OF US COULD BE SO **PAIN!**

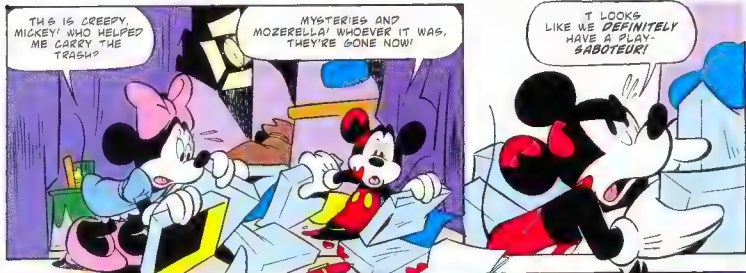
HMMM! FER TLHV VAINEST ONE IN THE SHOW, SHE'S PROTESTIN' **TOO MUCH!**



WHO COULD IT **BE?** GOOFY? HORACE? MINNIE? OR MAYBE MICKEY'S BEHIND IT ALL FOR SOME DUMB REASON?



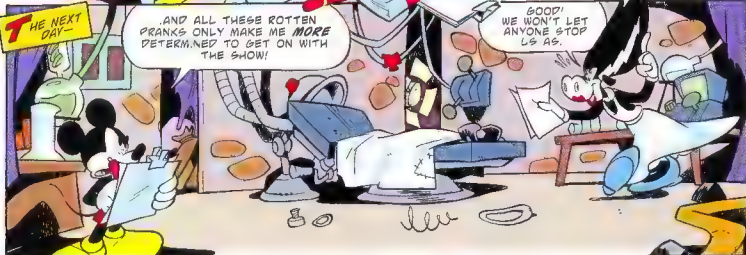




THIS IS CREEPY, MICKEY! WHO HELPED ME CARRY THE TRASH?

MYSTERIES AND MOZERELLA! WHOEVER IT WAS, THEY'RE GONE NOW!

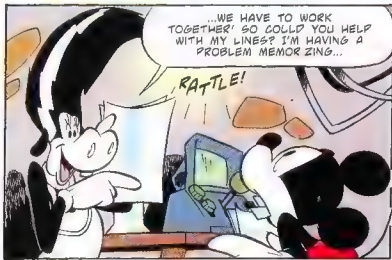
IT LOOKS LIKE WE DEFINITELY HAVE A PLAY... SABOTEUR!



THE NEXT DAY--

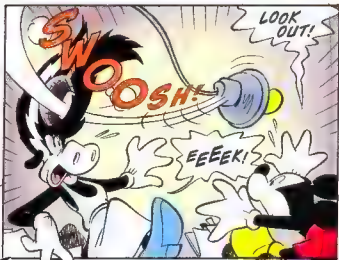
AND ALL THESE ROTTEN PRANKS ONLY MAKE ME MORE DETERMINED TO GET ON WITH THE SHOW!

GOOD! WE WON'T LET ANYONE STOP US AS.



...WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER! SO COULD YOU HELP WITH MY LINES? I'M HAVING A PROBLEM MEMORIZING...

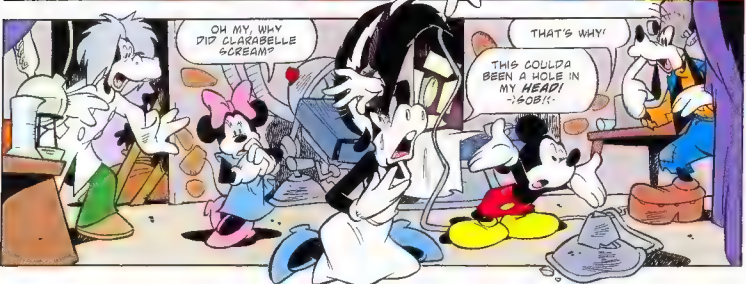
RATTLE!



SWOOSH!

LOOK OUT!

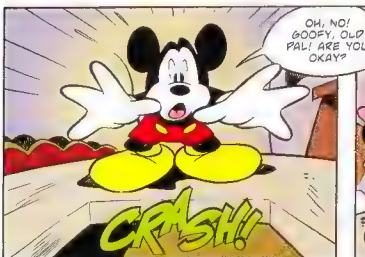
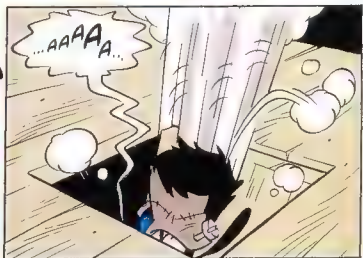
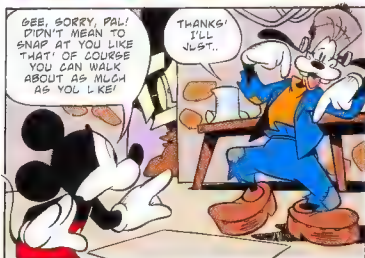
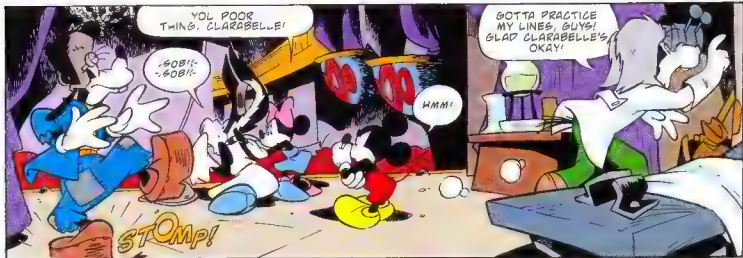
EEEEK!

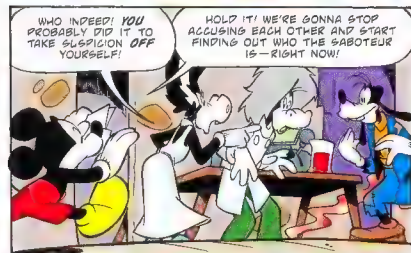
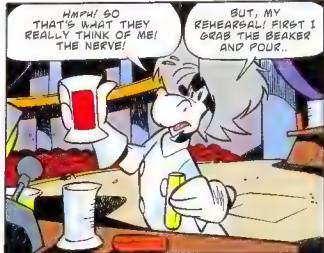
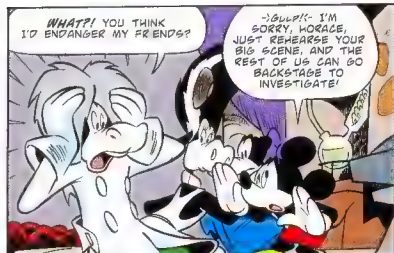
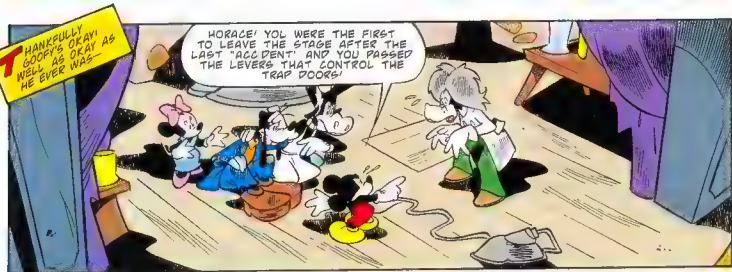


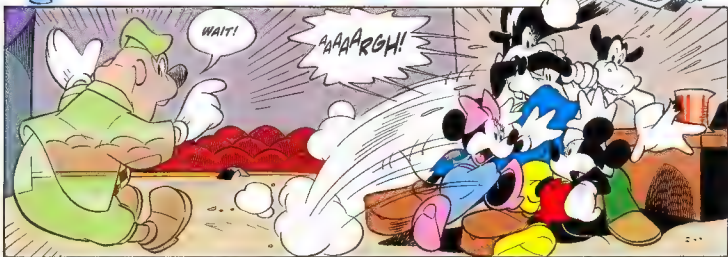
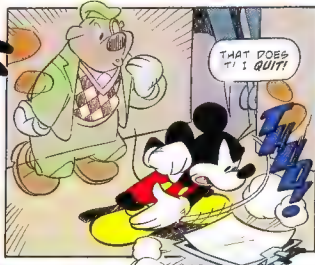
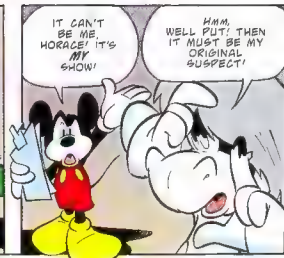
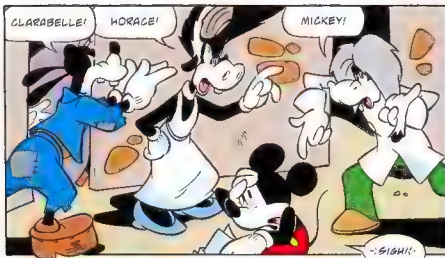
OH MY, WHY DID CLARABELLE SCREAM?

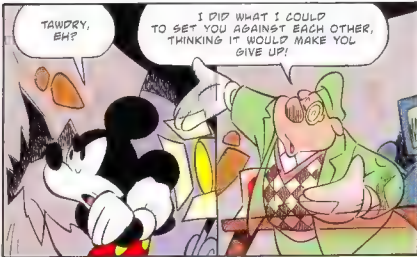
THAT'S WHY!

THIS COULDA BEEN A HOLE IN MY HEAD! -SOB!!-









Walt Disney's GYRO GEARLOOSE

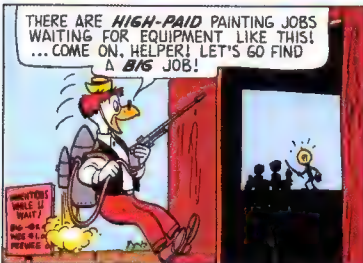
A HELPER'S HELPING HAND

GYRO HAS INVENTED
A FAST WAY TO
PAINT JUST ABOUT
ANYTHING!

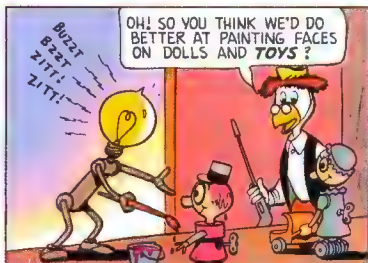
WITH THIS ROCKET BELT AND
PORTABLE SPRAYER I CAN
DO AWAY WITH LADDERS,
SCAFFOLDS, SLINGS, AND
BUCKETS!



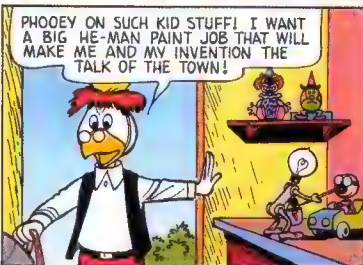
THERE ARE **HIGH-PAID** PAINTING JOBS
WAITING FOR EQUIPMENT LIKE THIS!
...COME ON, HELPER! LET'S GO FIND
A **BIG** JOB!



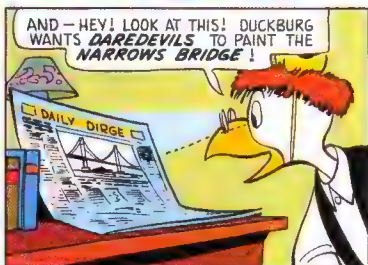
OH! SO YOU THINK WE'D DO
BETTER AT PAINTING FACES
ON DOLLS AND **TOYS**?

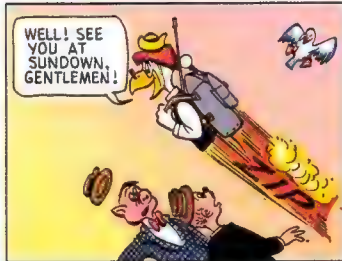
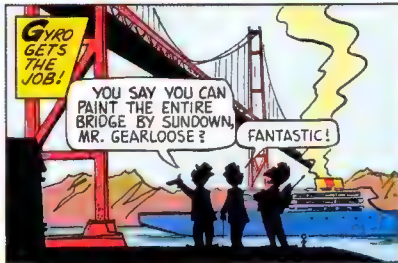
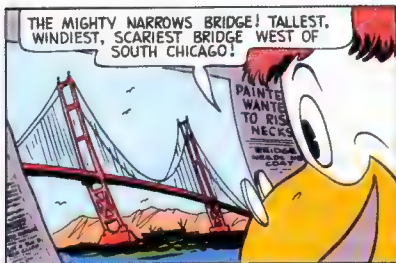


PHOOEY ON SUCH KID STUFF! I WANT
A BIG HE-MAN PAINT JOB THAT WILL
MAKE ME AND MY INVENTION THE
TALK OF THE TOWN!



AND - HEY! LOOK AT THIS! DUCKBURG
WANTS **DAREDEVILS** TO PAINT THE
NARROWS BRIDGE!



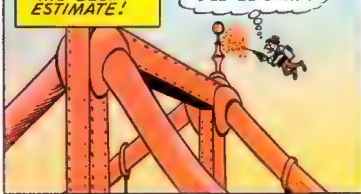


EVEN WITH TIME LOST ZOOMING ASHORE
TO REFILL THE SPRAYER, I SHOULD
FINISH WELL AHEAD OF SCHEDULE!

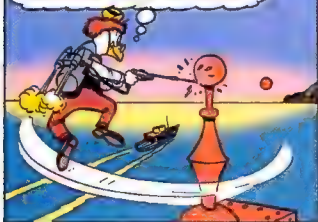


**GYRO DOES
INDEED BEAT
HIS BEST
ESTIMATE!**

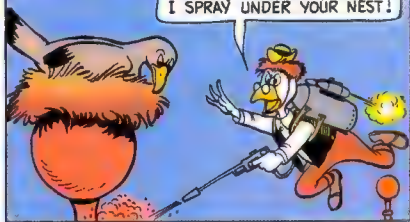
WHEN I PAINT THE
FINIALS ON THIS
LAST TOWER
I'LL BE DONE!



TEN MINUTES TO SUNDOWN, AND
ONLY ONE FINIAL TO FINISH!



WELL! ... YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO
MOVE, MRS. GULL, WHILE
I SPRAY UNDER YOUR NEST!



NOW, LISTEN, MA'AM!
BE REASONABLE!



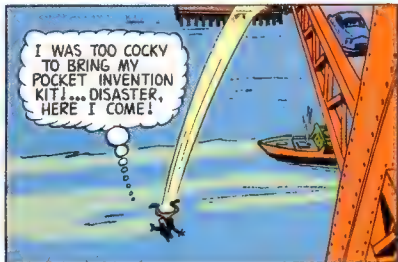
WHOA! MY ROCKET'S QUIT!
THAT GULL PULLED
THE CORK OUT OF THE FUEL
TANK!

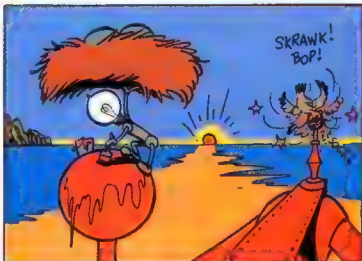
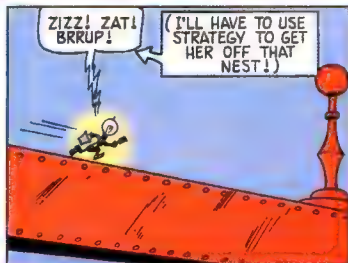
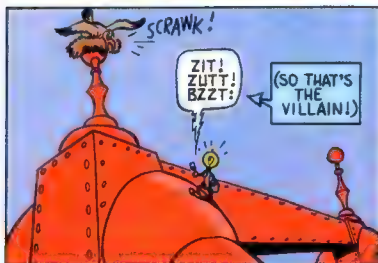
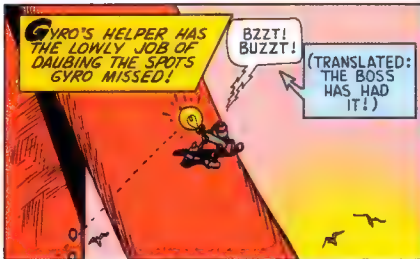


IT'S A FIVE-MINUTE
DROP TO THE
WATER, AND
I'VE NO WAY
TO INVENT
AN INSTANT
PARACHUTE!



I WAS TOO COCKY
TO BRING MY
POCKET INVENTION
KIT! ... DISASTER,
HERE I COME!





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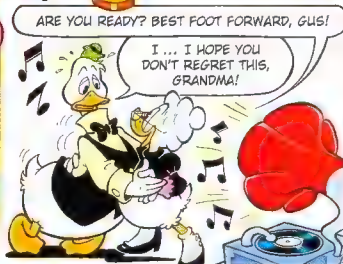
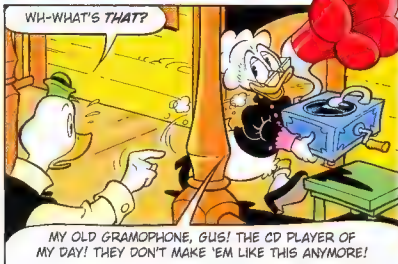
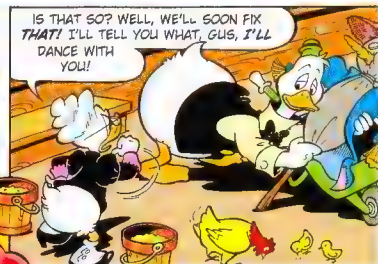
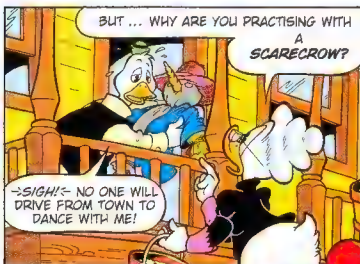
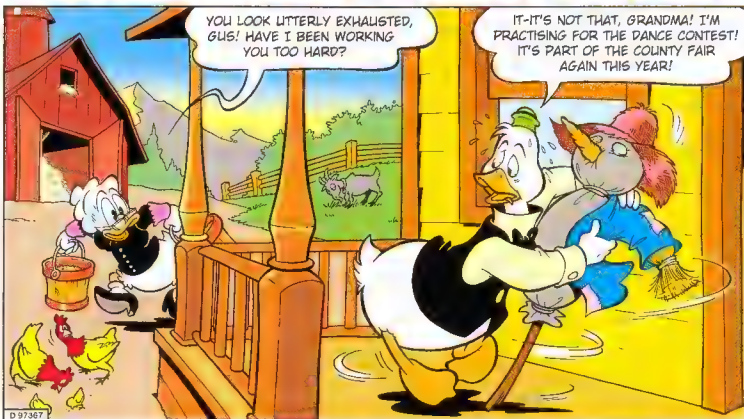
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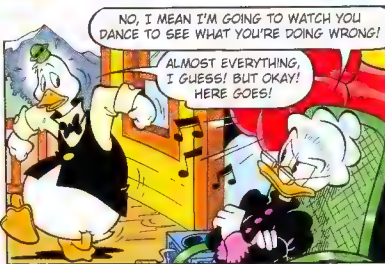
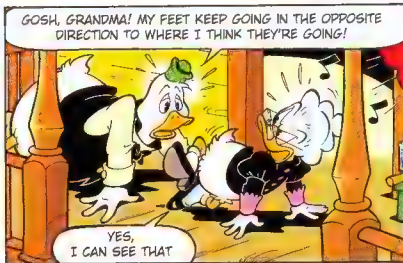
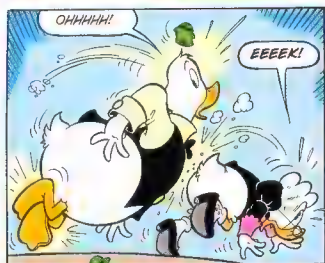
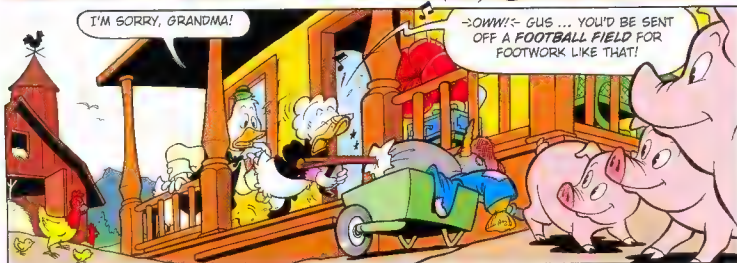
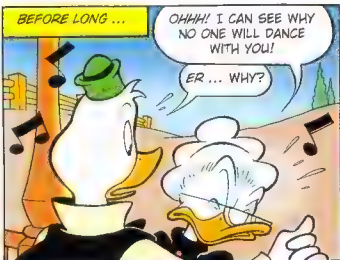
WALT DISNEY'S

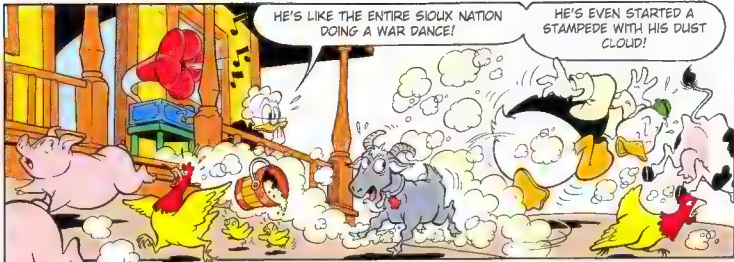
Grandma Duck

in

Log Cabin Dance







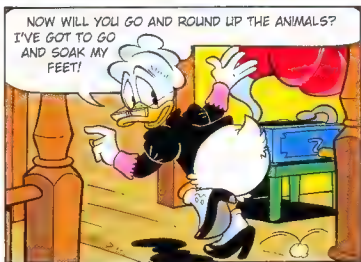
HE'S LIKE THE ENTIRE SIOUX NATION
DOING A WAR DANCE!

HE'S EVEN STARTED A
STAMPEDE WITH HIS DUST
CLOUD!



HOW'M I DOING,
GRANDMA?

JUST PUT BLADES ON
YOUR FEET AND
YOU'D MAKE A GREAT
PLOUGH!

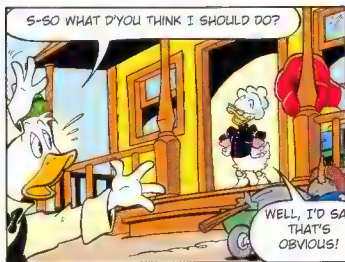


NOW WILL YOU GO AND ROUND UP THE ANIMALS?
I'VE GOT TO GO
AND SOAK MY
FEET!



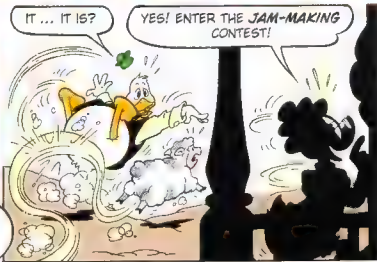
WILL WE PRACTICE
AGAIN LATER?

I DON'T THINK MY TOES COULD
TAKE IT, GUS. SORRY!



S-SO WHAT D'YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?

WELL, I'D SAY
THAT'S
OBVIOUS!



IT ... IT IS?

YES! ENTER THE JAM-MAKING
CONTEST!

LATER...

DANCE CONTEST

-SIGH!- IF ONLY I COULD BE UP THERE DANCING!

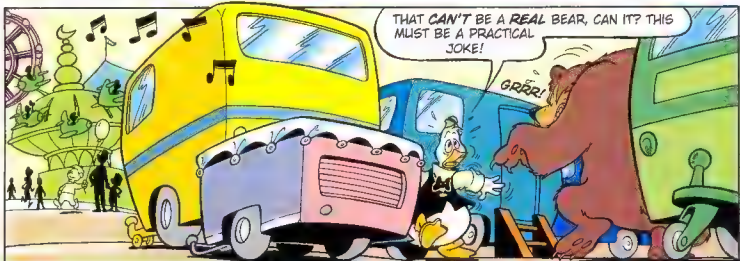


GUESS I'LL JUST MOSEY INTO THE SHADOWS, SO NONE OF MY FRIENDS WILL SEE ME!

I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO ASK ME WHY I'M NOT COMPETING!



-YIKES!-



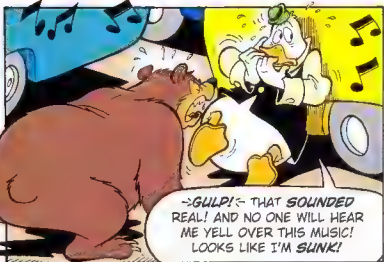
THAT CAN'T BE A REAL BEAR, CAN IT? THIS MUST BE A PRACTICAL JOKE!

GRRR!



G-G-GET OUT OF THAT BEAR SUIT, WHOEVER YOU ARE!

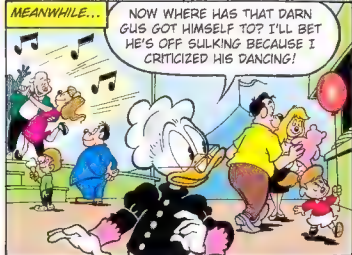
RAHHRR!



-GULP!- THAT SOUNDED REAL! AND NO ONE WILL HEAR ME YELL OVER THIS MUSIC! LOOKS LIKE I'M SUNK!

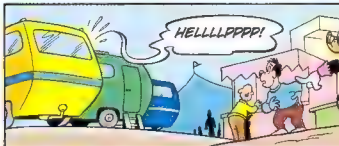
MEANWHILE...

NOW WHERE HAS THAT DARN GUS GOT HIMSELF TO? I'LL BET HE'S OFF SULKING BECAUSE I CRITICIZED HIS DANCING!



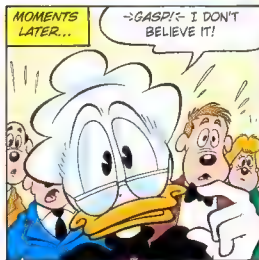
->GULP!-< IT'S NO USE! THE ONLY THING HE'S INTERESTED IN EATING...

...IS ME!



MOMENTS LATER...

->GASP!-< I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

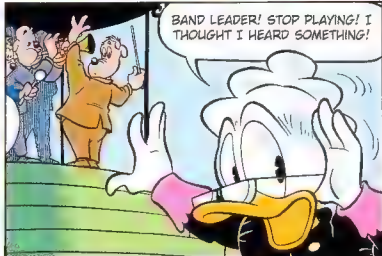


ELSEWHERE...

N-N-NICE BEAR! ER... ARE YOU HUNGRY? WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO BUY YOU A HOT DOG? SOME COTTON CANDY?

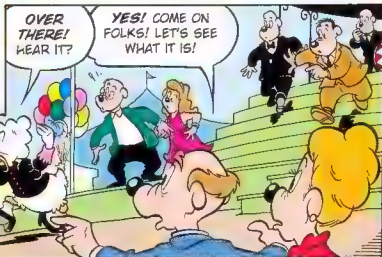


BAND LEADER! STOP PLAYING! I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING!



OVER THERE! HEAR IT?

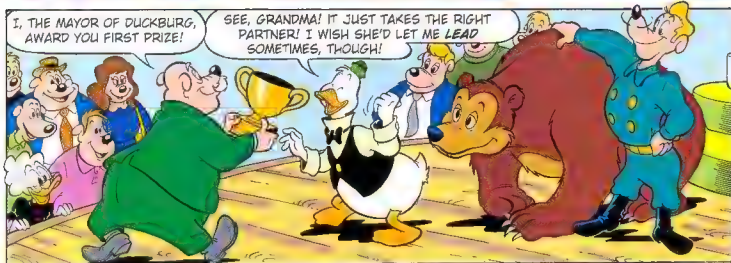
YES! COME ON FOLKS! LET'S SEE WHAT IT IS!



GRANDMA! HELP ME!

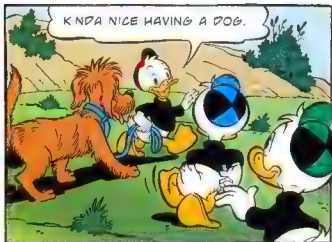
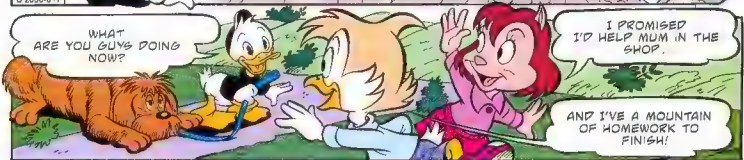
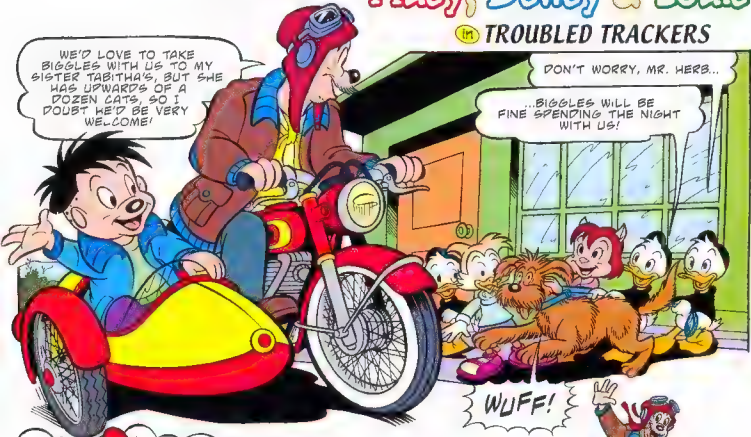
STAY BACK, EVERYONE!

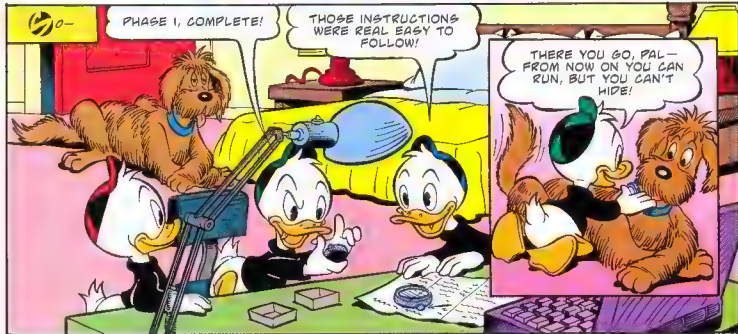
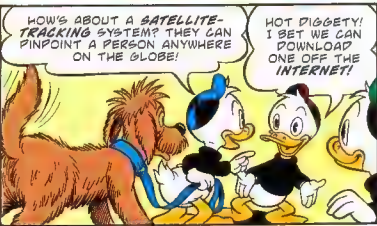
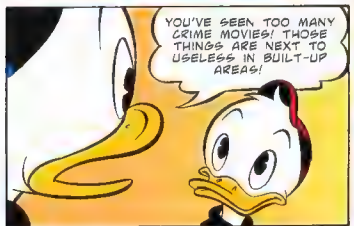
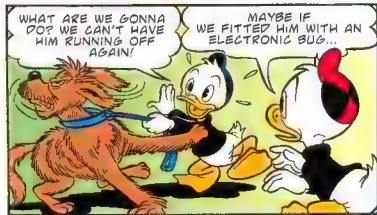
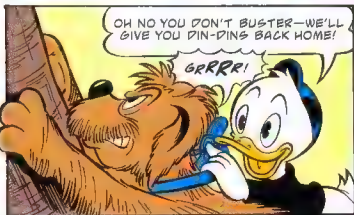
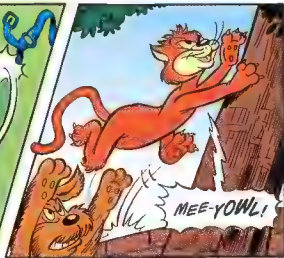
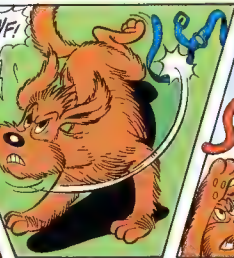
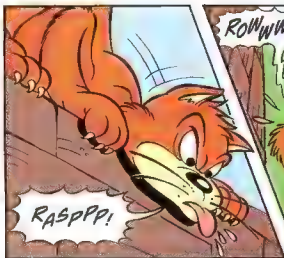




WALT DISNEY'S **Huey, Dewey & Louie**

In **TROUBLED TRACKERS**





NOW WE COME TO THE
DIFFICULT BIT—IN-
STALLING A SATELLITE-
TRACKING PROGRAM!

MAYBE WE
SHOULD CALL
BENNY ON OUR
INTRANET?

THIS IS CLINT, YOUR FRIENDLY
INTRANET ANSWERING SERVICE!
I'M AFRAID BENNY'S BUSY
RIGHT NOW, BUT IF YOU WISH
TO LEAVE A MESSAGE
AFTER THE TONE...

SAY, DO YOU KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT SATELLITE-
TRACKING SYSTEMS?

SURE THING,
BUDDY!

ARE YOU SURE, CLINT?

YOU BET YOUR
COTTON-PICK'N'
BITCHES I DO, PAL!
YOU TAKE ME FOR A
DUMB WORD
PROCESSOR OR
SUMTHIN'?

WE'RE SORRY!

WE NEVER
DOUBTED YOU FOR
A SECOND!

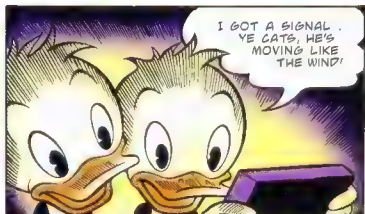
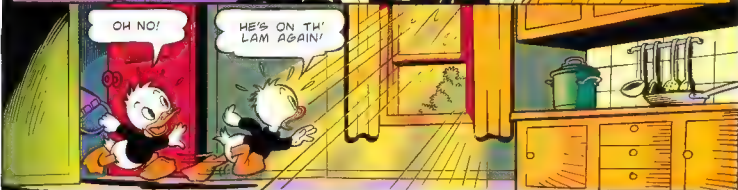
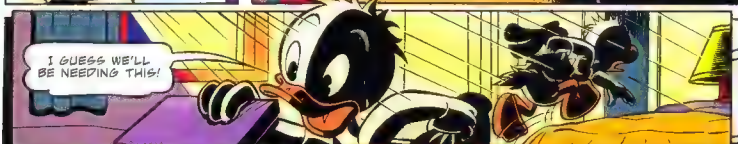
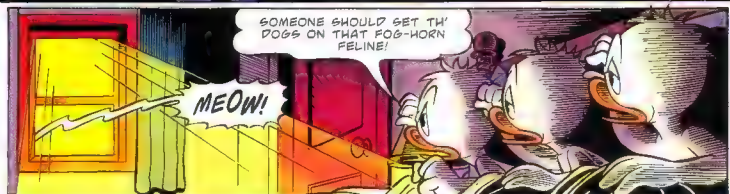
NO PROBLEM, PALS...

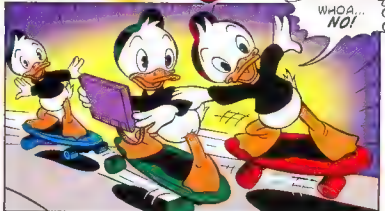
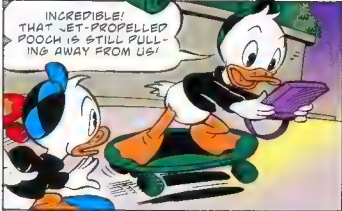
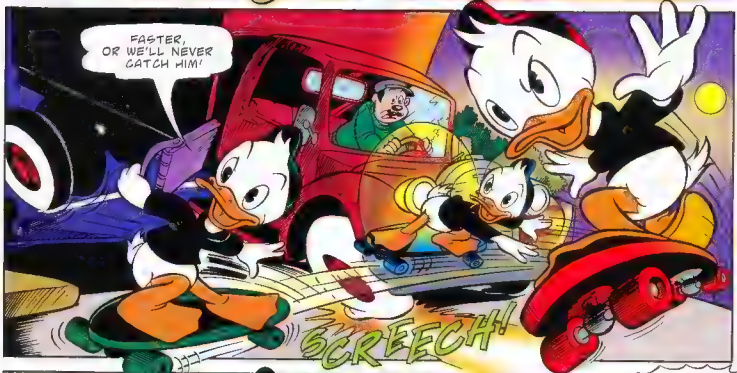
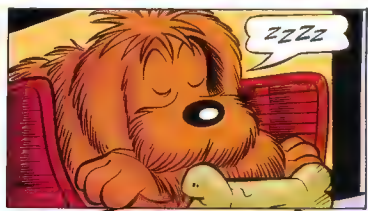
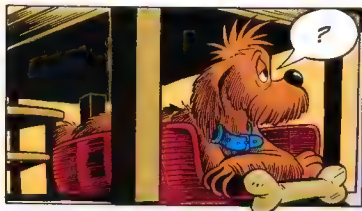
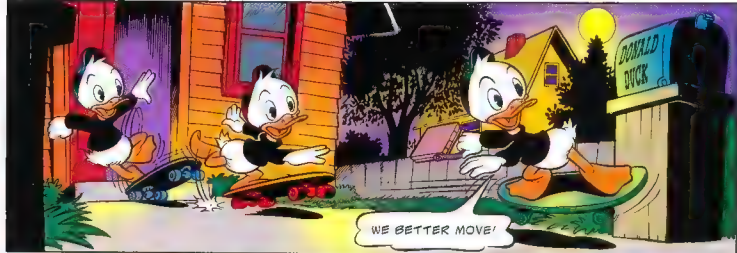
IN FACT I
ALREADY INSTALLED
THE PROGRAM—
YOUR PALM-TOP IS
NOW A GRADE-A
SATELLITE-TRACKING
RECEIVER!

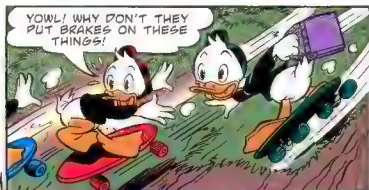
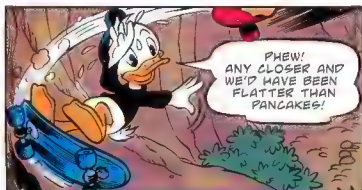
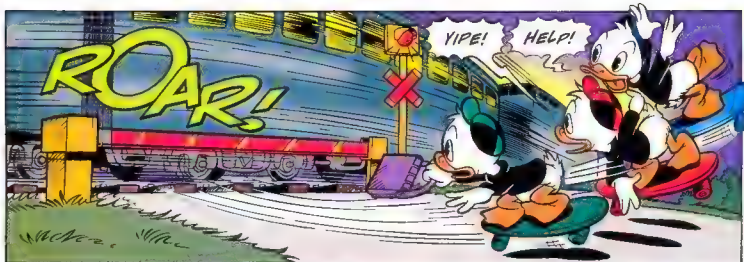
SUPPER'S READY, BOYS!

C'MON, BOY, TIME FOR CHOW!

RUFF! -SLURP!-

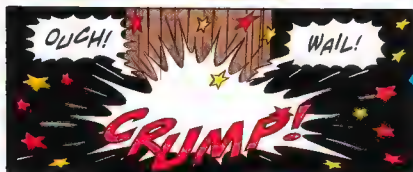




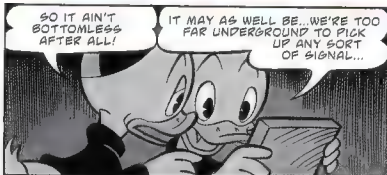




...BUT THE BUSH AIN'T!



THIS MUST BE
OLD MOTHER GRINDLEY'S
BOTTOMLESS PIT!



SO IT AIN'T
BOTTOMLESS
AFTER ALL!

IT MAY AS WELL BE...WE'RE TOO
FAR UNDERGROUND TO PICK
UP ANY SORT
OF SIGNAL...



NO INTERNET,
NO RESCUE, NO
CLINT EVEN!

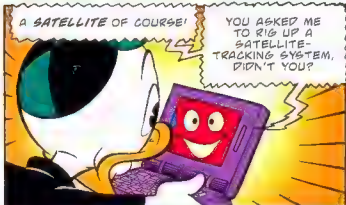
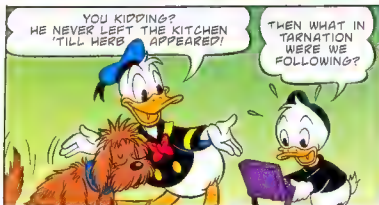
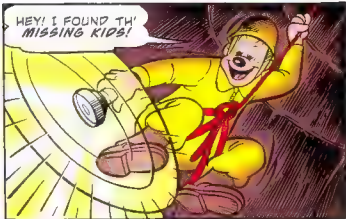


BRR! IT'S
FREEZING DOWN
HERE!

WE'D BETTER
HUDDLE TOGETHER
FOR WARMTH!



WE GOTTA FACE IT, MEN,
NO ONE'S EVER GONNA FIND US
DOWN HERE...



Donald Duck

OH, NO! UNCA DONALD
STAYED UP ALL NIGHT
WATCHING TV AGAIN!

GREAT! NOW WE'LL
NEVER WAKE HIM UP!

D 98188

WELL, WE HAVE TO SAVE
HIM FROM GETTING INTO
TROUBLE AT WORK!

AT LEAST HE'S
DRESSED THIS TIME!

I'LL PACK OUR
LUNCH BOXES!

AND I'LL GET UNCA
DONALD'S!

I'LL CALL GORDON, UNCA
DONALD'S FRIEND FROM
WORK!

→GZAZZZ!←

GORDON, THIS IS HUEY! WOULD
YOU MIND PICKING UP UNCA
DONALD TODAY?

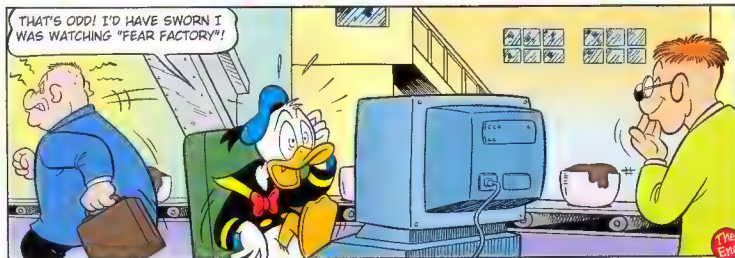
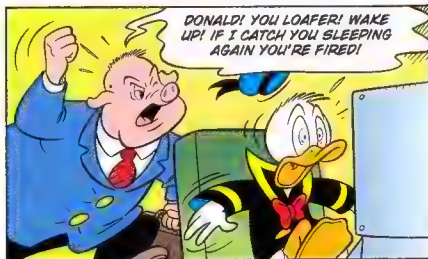
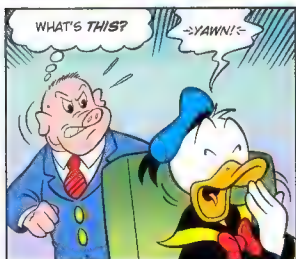
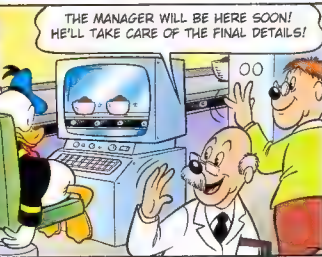
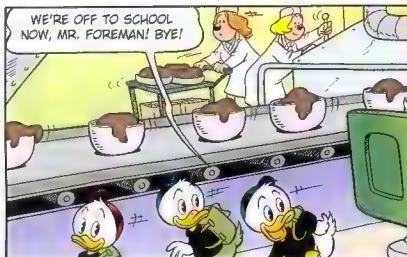
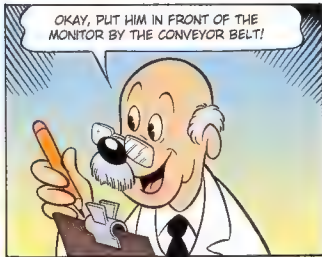
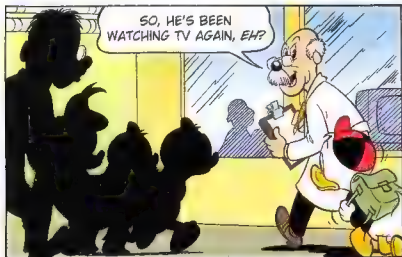
SOON...

I DON'T MIND, KIDS,
BUT WHY DON'T WE
JUST WAKE HIM?

TRUST ME, GORDON,
THAT WOULD BE A
WASTE OF TIME!

BESIDES, WE'VE DEVELOPED
OUR OWN WAY TO HANDLE
THESE SITUATIONS!

ZZZZZZZZ!

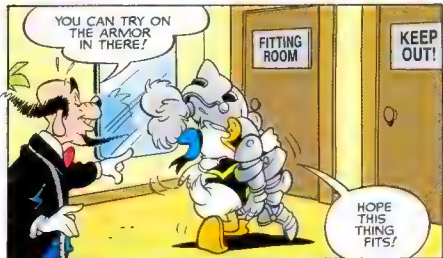
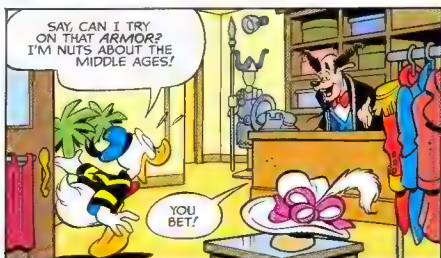


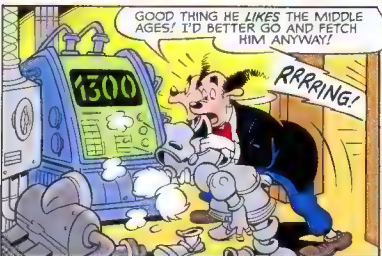
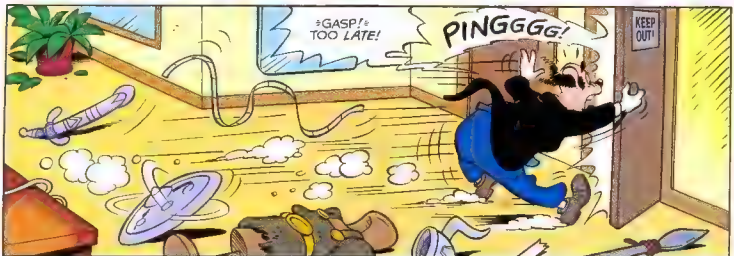
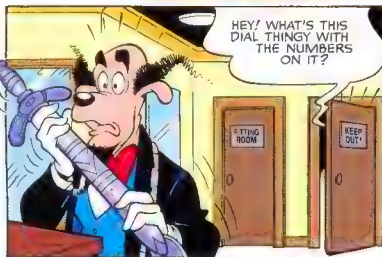
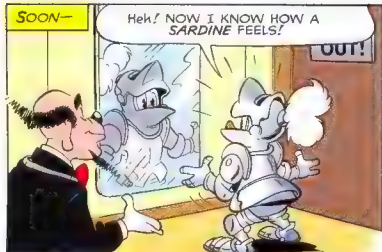


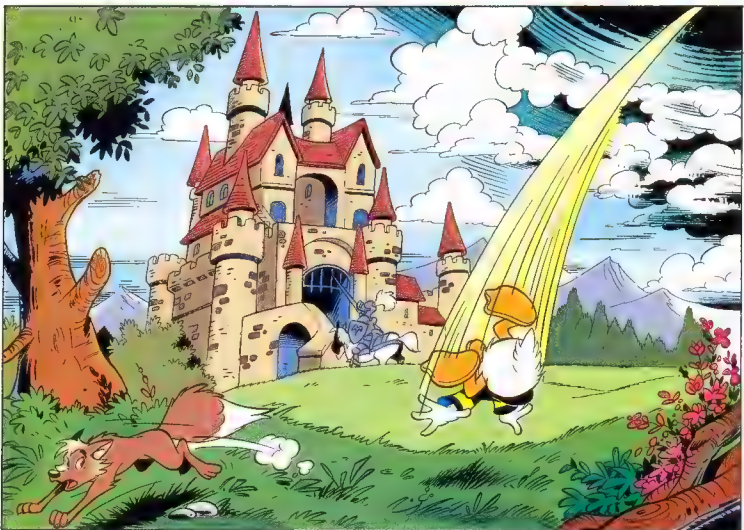
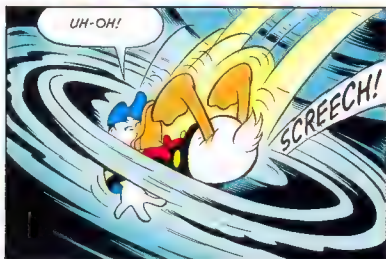
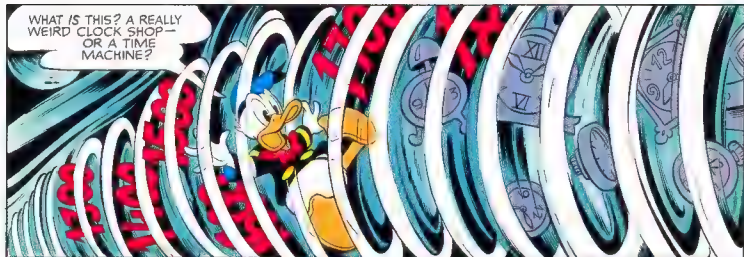
WALT Disney presents

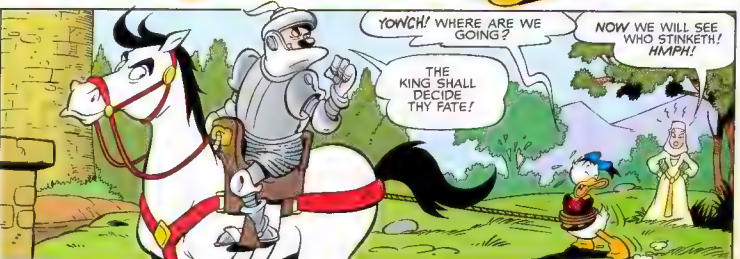
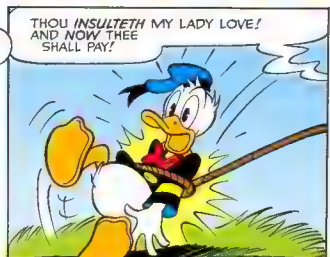
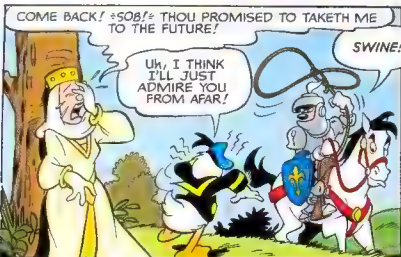
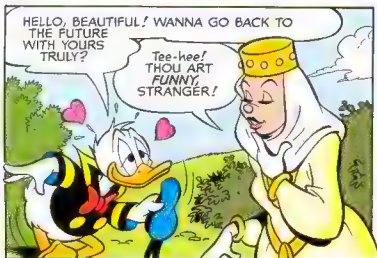
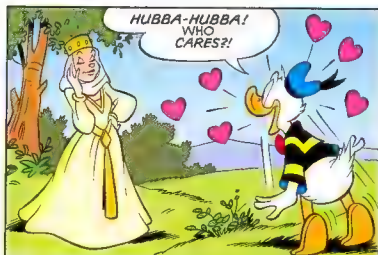
DONALD DUCK

in *The Bad Old Days*









MEANWHILE—

FINALLY! I THOUGHT
SHE WOULD NEVER
STOP YAKKING!

NOW TO RESCUE
THAT
DUCK!

YOO-
HOO!

DO YOU HAVE THIS COSTUME
IN MY SIZE?

BUT OF
COURSE!

WAIT 'TILL DONALD
SEES ME IN THIS!
"GIGGLE!" HE'LL
SIMPLY LOSE
HIS HEAD!

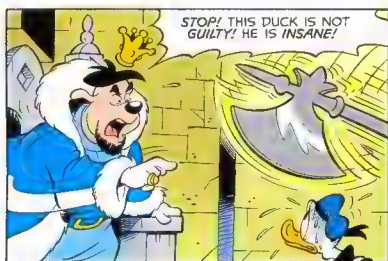
THAT'S THE WAY
IT LOOKS—

YOU HEARDETH
THE EVIDENCE, SIRE!
CAN I CHOP OFF HIS
HEAD NOW?

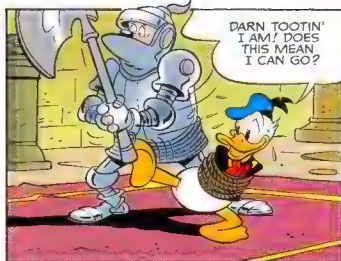
I DON'T EVEN
BELONG HERE!
I'M FROM THE
FUTURE!

WHATEVER.
YAWN!

NO!
YOU CAN'T
DO THAT
TO ME!



STOP! THIS DUCK IS NOT GUILTY! HE IS INSANE!

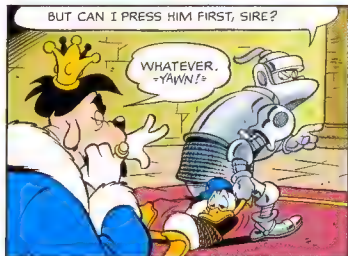


DARN TOOTIN' I AM! DOES THIS MEAN I CAN GO?



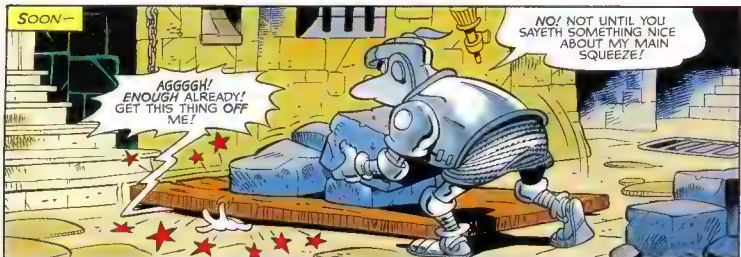
NO! I SENTENCE YOU TO FORTY YEARS OF HARD LABOR! IN THE CASTLE LAUNDRY!

GAK!!



BUT CAN I PRESS HIM FIRST, SIRE?

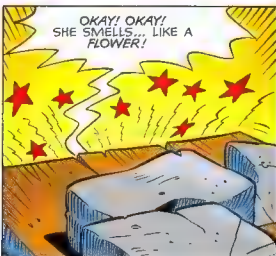
WHATEVER.
=YAWN!=



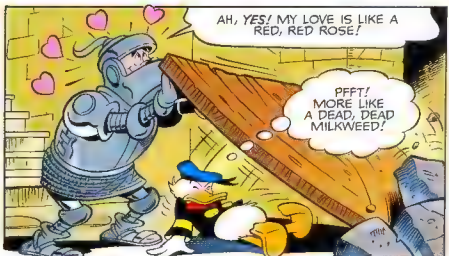
SOON—

AGGGGH!
ENOUGH ALREADY!
GET THIS THING OFF ME!

NO! NOT UNTIL YOU SAYETH SOMETHING NICE ABOUT MY MAIN SQUEEZE!

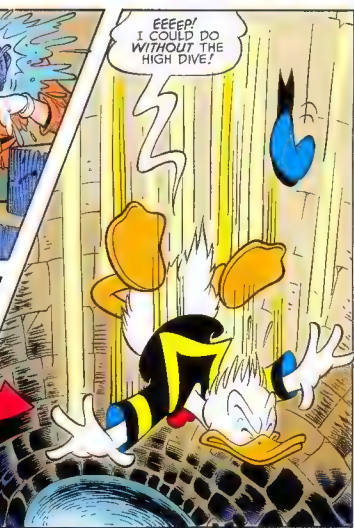
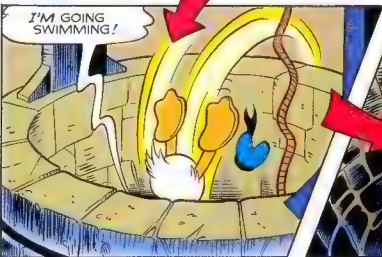
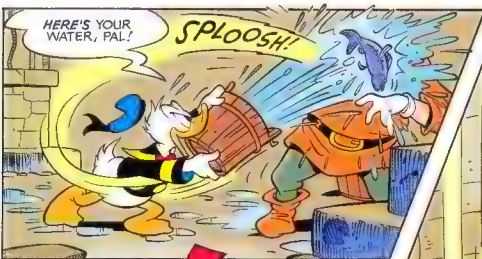
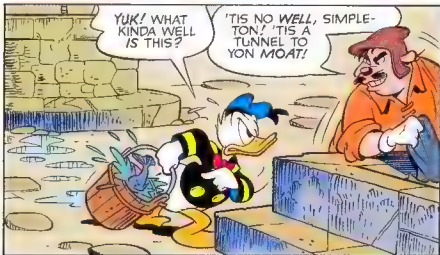
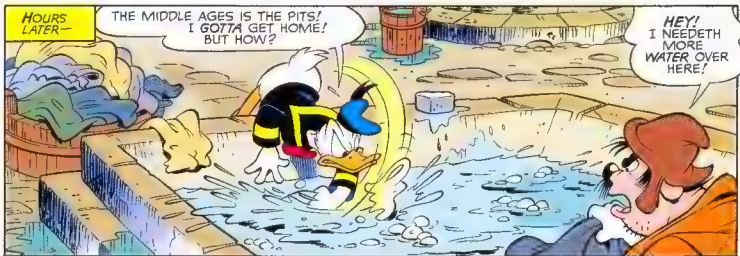


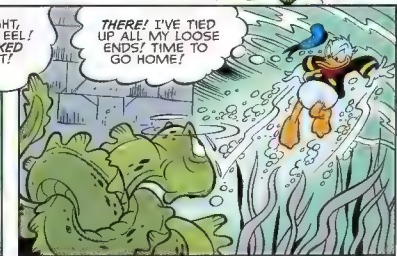
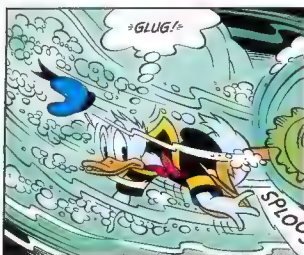
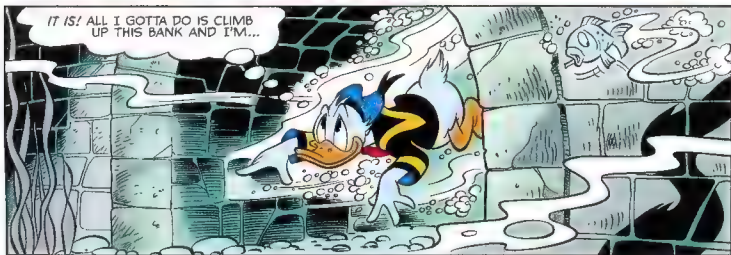
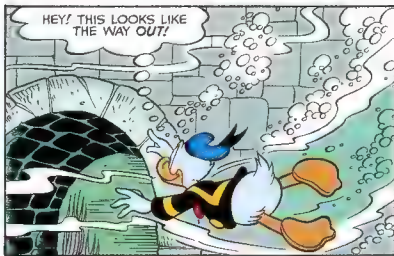
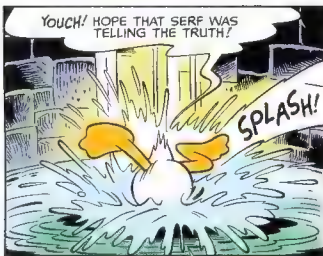
OKAY! OKAY!
SHE SMELLS... LIKE A FLOWER!



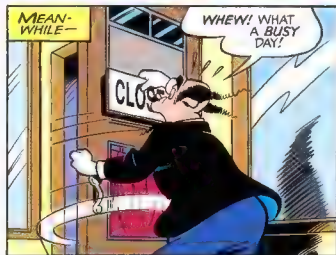
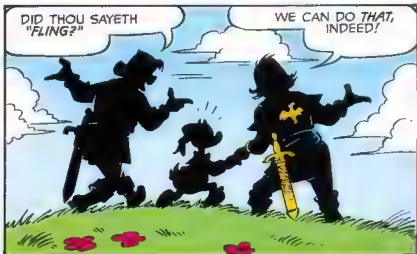
AH, YES! MY LOVE IS LIKE A RED, RED ROSE!

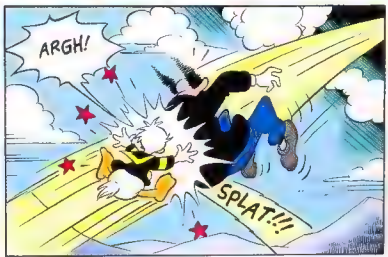
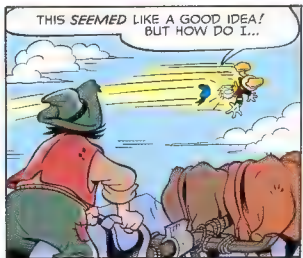
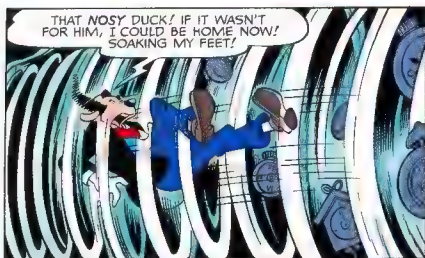
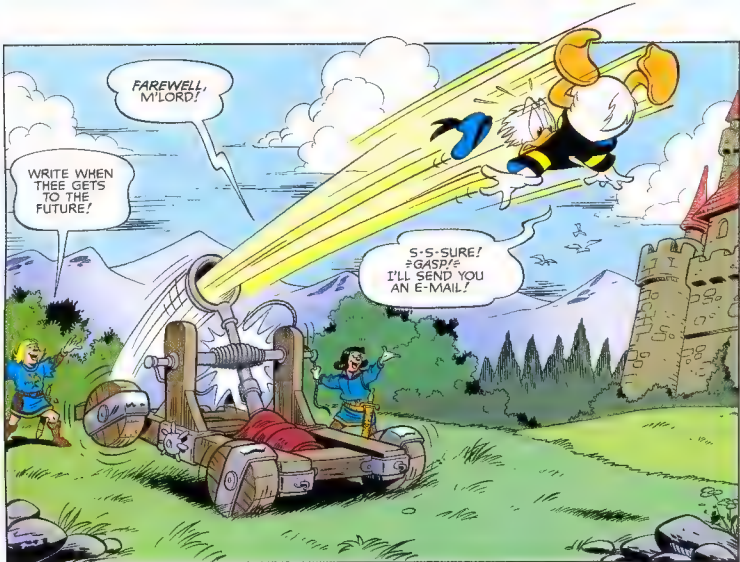
PFPT!
MORE LIKE A DEAD, DEAD MILKWEED!

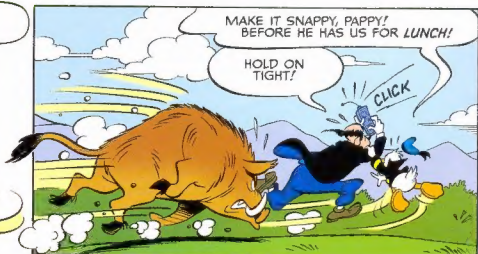
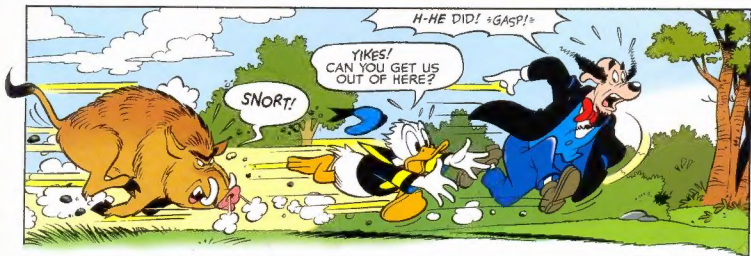
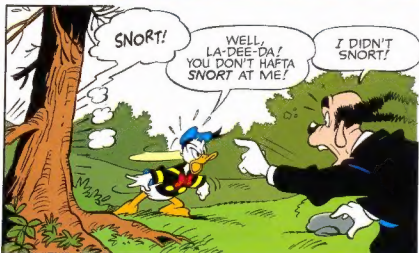
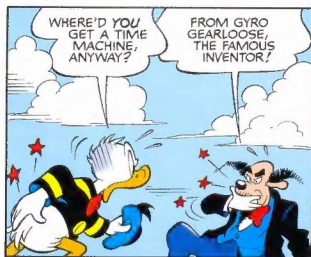


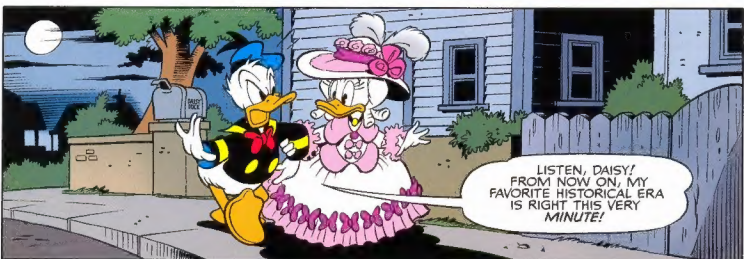
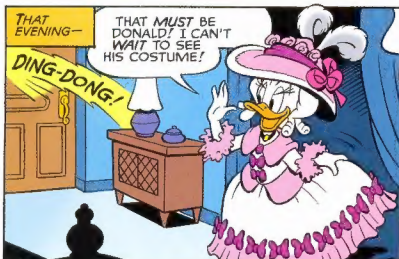
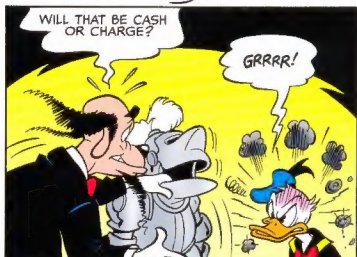
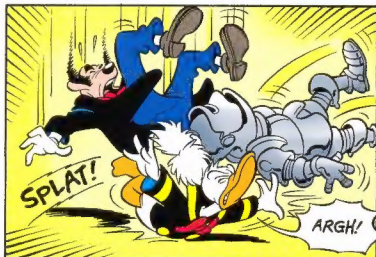
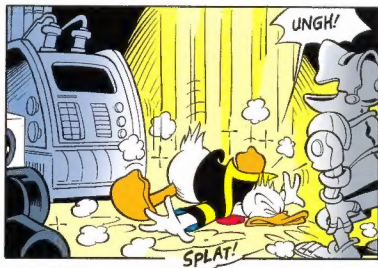
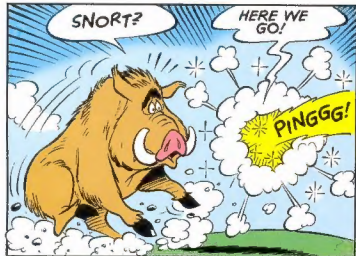


SOON—









LETTERS

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES

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Surface mail: WDC&S, 1966 Greenspring Drive Ste. 400, Timonium MD 21093.

I've been meaning to write to you for a while now, but I was sidetracked when we began preparing for vacation to Disney World. I am so glad that you brought Disney Comics back. They were a favorite of mine. Oh, excuse me. I'm an eighteen year old girl who has loved Disney since before I can remember. And Disney Comics were a part of that. You might think I'm too young to have gotten the comics since you stopped selling them in the USA, but I wasn't always in the US. I also lived in Hong Kong when it was a British colony, and they sold them there just as they did in England. My favorite of the comics has always been Donald and Uncle Scrooge (but my all time favorite character from all of Disney's Kingdom is Belle). I was so disappointed when I discovered that I could no longer find any more Disney Comics. Imagine my surprise when I visited my local comic book store and discovered two new issues! I was so happy! I wish everyone could appreciate the comics as much as I do. The people I most admire are my mom and Walt Disney. I always wanted to be an animator, but I never thought I could do it until two years ago when I received encouragement when someone working for Disney World saw my drawings and praised them. Now I'm practising as much as I can and hope to be among the honored animators that work for Disney.

Chi-ling Chu
via email

I've been reading Duck stories (or, in those earliest days, have had them read to me) since 1959. I'd think you'd agree that I've witnessed more than my share of wacking, quacking, comedy, and adventure.

In all that time, though, I'd never considered the amazing, yet elementary, observation that Don Rosa makes in *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* 635: Donald has never had a true "pal" with whom he could be an equal! With a supporting cast that exists to exploit, if not outright deride, him, Donald presses on like a "Kramden without a Norton," comforted only by his easy chair, TV, and the occasional odd mania.

Adding Jose and Panchito to the mix offers a dynamic to the Duck's life not seen since Donald's days as a supporting character in the Mickey Mouse newspaper strip. If Don Rosa ever wants to examine Donald's untold history, elaborating on an adventure these "Three Caballeros" have had would certainly please this reader.

I read "Hound of the Moaning Hills" in its original incarnation (*HD&L Junior Woodchucks* 12, January, 1972) and, while Kay Wright may have turned in one of the best efforts of his career in his

fidelity to Carl Barks' pencil layouts, the story never seemed to be all it could be. A gargantuan "Dire-wolf" hound, eerily huge turkeys, and panicky people fleeing for their lives simply needed to be "elevated" to a higher level than Wright was capable of providing.

Thanks are due to Daan Jippes and Gemstone for allowing this early-seventies standout tale to reach its full potential.

Joe Torcivia
via email

I have just read *WDC&S* 634 & 635 (July and August, respectively). I have read Disney comics since I was a little kid. I really enjoyed the Carl Barks Junior Woodchucks stories drawn by Dutch Duck master Daan Jippes. William Van Horn's "Hard Boiled Duck" was very funny, and Mr. Van Horn's cover was a nice touch to the July issue. The August issue was also enjoyable, Don Rosa's story was really great. I also like that Rosa explains his stories and where they come from on the inside back covers of *WDC&S* 635 and *US* 319.

Please keep making great comics. I can't wait until the September issue.

Daniel Savino
via email

I have subscribed to all your Disney publications. Great job folks. I like the expanded page format.

I have a question, in William Van Horn's, "Hard Boiled Duck," Donald referred to his "Gat."

What is a Gat? I wonder if this was a typo. If it is a typo maybe it will make this comic more valuable in years to come?

William Van Horn really threw a hook in this story. I was totally mystified by the next to last page. Pure genius! I think he is undervalued in his work. I think he is a great duck storyteller. More Van Horn please. (I always look for the mosquito in one of his story frames.)

All in all, thanks for stepping up to the plate and publishing the Disney comics we all love. Keep up the good work!

Ivan Maltz
via email

A "gat" is 1930s-vintage private detective slang for a handgun, also characterized by terms such as "roscoe," "heater," and "rod" in period crime fiction by writers like Dashiell Hammett, Mickey Spillane, and Raymond Chandler. No self-respecting hard-boiled duck would be without one.

—John Clark

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